

Brothers in Arms



**Biographies of citizen soldiers from the
77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry who fought
for the Union Army during the Civil War**

researched and written by Bart Benjamin

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**Bart Benjamin
Bloomington, Illinois**

Published privately by Bart Benjamin

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Cover: This collage of images features a digitally restored regimental flag of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry encircled by carte de visite photographs of 14 of its volunteer soldiers. Full images may be found in the pages that follow.

Title Page: Samuel Kirkman's G.A.R. Ladder Badge



Preface



In the early 1990s, spurred by Ken Burns' outstanding *Civil War* mini-series on PBS, I learned that I had three ancestors who fought for the Union Army. By combining library research and military records obtained from the National Archives, I was able to trace their unit movements, combat experiences, injuries, and illnesses. In the spring of 1992, I completed the first version of my research, which I titled *Three Soldiers of Valor*. In the decade that followed, I found much new information, but it wasn't until early 2020 that I finally incorporated this new material into an updated version of my work, which I renamed *Our Union to Restore. Brothers in Arms* is a direct spin-off of that work.

In the early 1990s, I inherited 18 carte de visite (CdV) photographs once owned by my great-great-grandfather, Samuel Kirkman, who was a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Presumably, the other 17 men in his CdV collection were some of his closest friends during his time in the Civil War. Having recently joined *Ancestry.com* to conduct family genealogical research, I wondered whether I could apply the same *Ancestry.com* search engine to research these men. In making the attempt, I hoped that a tool primarily designed for genealogical research could also be used to conduct historical research.



Armed only with these men's names and basic enlistment information, I wasn't sure I could learn anything about these "ordinary" citizen soldiers using the resources of *Ancestry.com*. In the end, the information that I found through this process was remarkable! In a number of cases, I found multiple listings for each soldier, and soon I had uncovered ancestral connections between these comrades in arms that had likely been lost to history. And, on a personal note, I discovered three additional Civil War ancestors of my own!

For Section II of this work, I've written short biographies for each of these 18 men in the style of a compendium, beginning with my great-great grandfather. I arranged the remaining 17 men based on my best estimate of their closeness to him. In the absence of any written or oral records, this estimate was based on three variables — their native country, their home township, and the Company they served in. Like Samuel, 6 of the 17 men were born in England. Like Samuel, 11 of the 17 men lived in Kickapoo or the adjacent Rosefield Township of Peoria County, Illinois. Like Samuel, 12 of the 17 men served in Company K.

These men were important enough to my great-great grandfather that he safeguarded their photographs for the remaining 66 years of his life. Nearly all of these men were simple farmers in central Illinois whose lives would forever change because of their decision to heed President Lincoln's call for additional troops in July of 1862. By then, the Civil War had already been waged for 15 months, and it had become painfully obvious that neither side would quickly vanquish the other. Nevertheless, men enlisted in great numbers.

Of the 18 men whose images would later be immortalized in a New Orleans photographic studio, seven had been born in England, but they were still eager to fight for their adopted country. None of them could have imagined the length of their commitment, nor the burden of combat, disease, and deprivation that they would endure during the war and, for many, the remainder of their lives.

Section III expands this list to 8 additional soldiers who were relevant to either Samuel's life or the 77th Illinois as a whole.

Several months after I completed my first finished version of this work, I learned of *FamilySearch*, a website and online database maintained by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Using their "one world tree" and database, I found listings for all but one of my soldiers, and I added each man's Ancestor ID Number (e.g. [LH8T-V2C](#)) to the upper right corner of their page. *FamilySearch's* "View My Relationship" feature also revealed eight additional men who I am (distantly) related to, which prompted me to create my [Known Civil War Ancestors](#) photo page.

Although most of these were "ordinary" men, their collective service, given to ensure that their nation might live, was actually quite extraordinary.

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bb.77th.illinois@icloud.com

NOTE: This digital book features both 1) intra-document links that, when clicked, go directly to that other referenced page in this book and 2) Internet links that go to an external webpage on the Internet. These links are indicated by [their blue text](#).

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Using a tool primarily designed for genealogical research, the author researched the 18 citizen soldiers of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry who are pictured in his great-great grandfather's CdV collection.

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Using the same methodology as described in Section II, the author researched some additional men in the 77th Illinois, either because of their specific ancestry, historical significance, or some novel characteristic.

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This section analyzes the statistics and demographics of Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection. The first part shows how the homes of the 18 soldiers were distributed throughout central Illinois. The second part illustrates the strong "English connection" that was found within Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment. The third part summarizes the interesting observations and oddities that were found. The fourth part broadens the scope, and analyzes the geographic distribution of the entire 77th Illinois. Finally, the author provides source information, online resources, acknowledgments, and *My Known Civil War Ancestors* photo page.

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This section lists the extended family surnames that are known for each of the soldiers portrayed in Sections II and III.

SECTION I

SAMUEL KIRKMAN'S CARTE DE VISITE PHOTOGRAPHS

THE CARTE DE VISITE PHOTOGRAPH

The carte de visite was a type of small photograph that became immensely popular in Europe and the United States in the mid-nineteenth century. Also known as a CdV, cartes de visite followed the early pioneering photographic techniques such as daguerreotype and ambrotype, which were expensive and difficult to reproduce. Cartes de visite were born from calling cards, which bore the owner's name and usually an emblem, and were presented to the host during a social visit. Homes often had a tray near the door for collecting calling cards.

“Cardomania” sweeps the world. Patented in France in 1854, the carte de visite was slow to gain widespread use until 1859, when its originator, André Disdéri, published French Emperor Napoleon III's photographs in this format. This made the format an overnight success. “Cardomania” soon spread throughout Europe and then quickly to America and the rest of the world. The photographs were inexpensive to produce and to purchase, and became a way for individuals to share photographs of themselves with friends and family members. During the American Civil War, soldiers would visit studios to have their photographs taken, then share the carte de visite prints with their comrades in arms, or send them to loved ones in small envelopes. Photographs of Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, and other celebrities of the era became an instant hit in the North. Special albums were produced for holding the small photographs.

The photographs were made using a special camera which took a number of photographs (usually 8), which were then developed through the collodion wet-plate process and printed on albumen paper, which was then mounted on a standard size of card stock (2½ x 4 inches). The carte de visite process was popular until around 1870, when it was replaced by larger “cabinet cards.”

The Technical Process. Technically, the carte de visite combined two photographic processes — the **wet collodion process** for creating negatives and **albumen paper** for making positive prints from those glass negatives. Albumen, which is egg white, was mixed with ammonium chloride and spread on a sheet of paper. When the mixture dried, the photographer could store the paper away until he was ready to use it. The photographer would then sensitize the paper with silver nitrate, placed it over a negative, and expose it to sunlight. The print was washed, toned in a gold chloride solution, fixed in hypo, washed again, and then dried.

The wet collodion process for creating negatives was eventually replaced by the gelatin dry-plate negative around 1880. Albumen paper would remain the



André Disdéri's carte de visite images of French Emperor Napoleon III made that format a global sensation in 1859.

standard method of making photographic prints through the remainder of the nineteenth century.

The Kirkman CdV collection. While assigned to guard rebel prisoners in New Orleans between October 8, 1864 and February 20, 1865, Samuel Kirkman and several of his fellow soldiers from the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry had carte de visite photographs taken at Leeson's Photographic Gallery located at 167 Poydras Street.

On the reverse side, most cartes de visite had affixed a U.S. revenue stamp. [See the last page of this book]. Prompted by the urgent need to raise revenue to pay for the great costs of war, the Internal Revenue department implemented a "photograph tax" in 1864 requiring photographers to pay a tax on the sale of their photographs. Since there existed no "photography tax" stamps per se, other stamps were substituted, typically the proprietary or playing card revenue stamps were used, usually affixed to the back of the photograph. The cancellation of these stamps was usually done by hand with pen and ink.

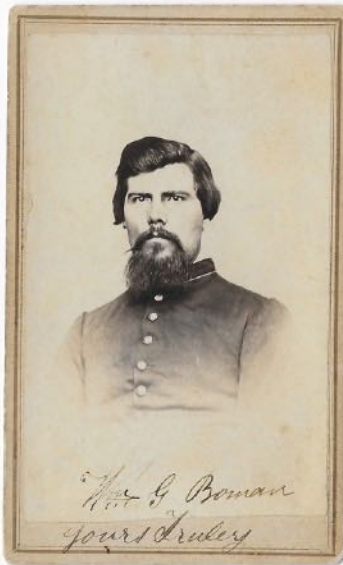


The stories these CdVs hold. For many Civil War veterans, their experiences during the war years were some of the most impactful ones of their lives — for both good and bad reasons — and the friendships they forged in camp and in battle endured. This was especially true of Civil War veterans, since regimental companies were usually formed from men from the same township and county. Each soldier often knew their comrades in arms before the war, and would remain friends with these men afterwards.

Samuel Kirkman kept 18 carte de visite photographs of his fellow soldiers for the remainder of his life. It is logical to assume that the soldiers whose cards comprise his collection were some of his closest friends in the regiment. Samuel and his wife Louisa would have three children who lived to adulthood and bore them six grandchildren. One of their granddaughters, Margaret Aldine Kirkman, who was 21 years old when Samuel died in 1931, ended up with his collection of photographs. When Margaret died in 2003, these CdVs were passed down to the author.



J. William Avery (Cazenovia)
Private, Company C



William G. Boman (Magnolia)
Private, Company B



John Camp (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



Imle E. Coulson (Rosefield)
Corporal, Company K



George W. Edwards (Rosefield)
Sergeant, Company K



Frederick Gilson (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



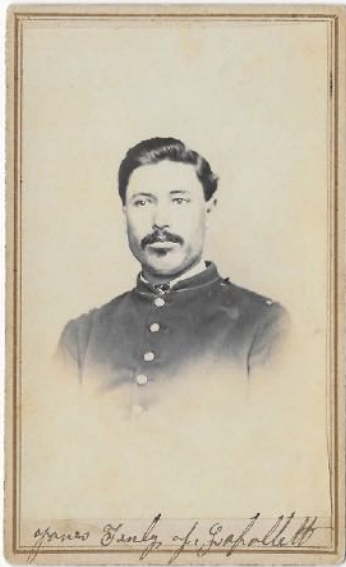
Oswald B. Green (Rosefield)
Corporal, Company K



Thomas J. Holt (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



Samuel Kirkman (Kickapoo)
Private, Company K



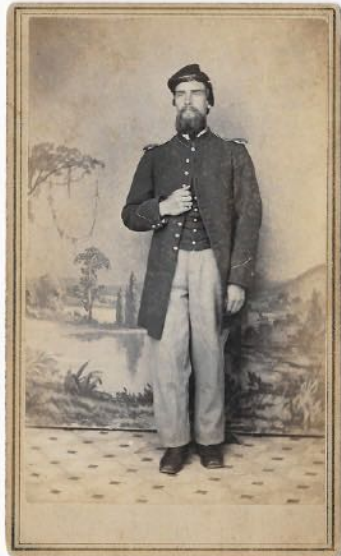
John LaFollette (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



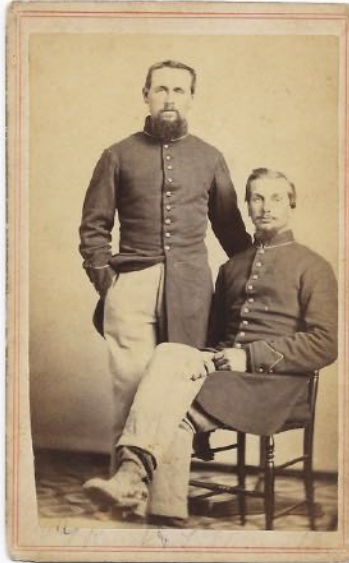
Henry S. Morris (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



Richard Morris (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



John Pritchard (Kickapoo)
Private, Company K



Louis (Medina) and **Lyman** (Rosefield) **Rench**
Wagoner, Company E and Private, Company K



Jacob H. Snyder (Elmwood)
Musician, Company I



Edwin R. Somers (Peoria)
Private, Company K

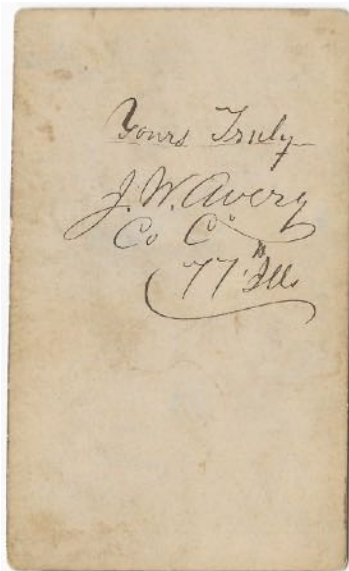


Jacob W. Wilkin (Marshall)
Captain, Company C

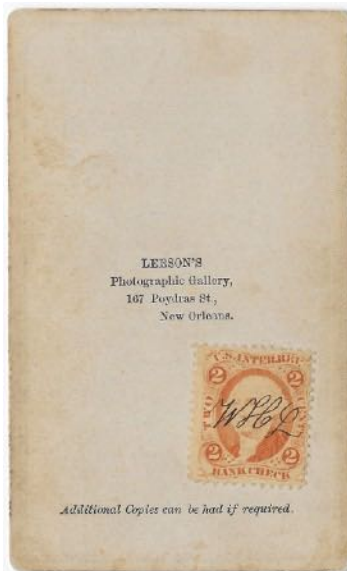


Unknown soldier

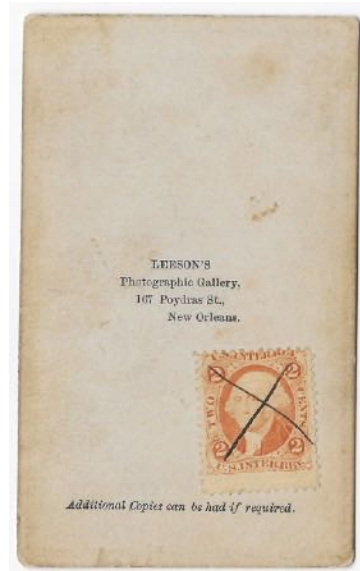
CdV Reverse sides



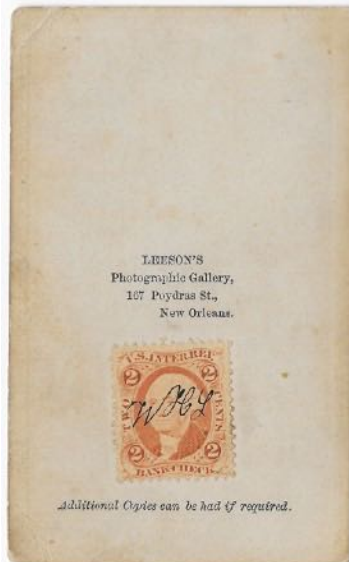
J. William Avery (Cazenovia)
Private, Company C



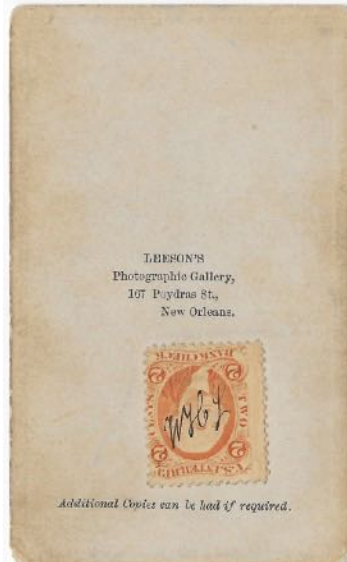
William G. Boman (Magnolia)
Private, Company B



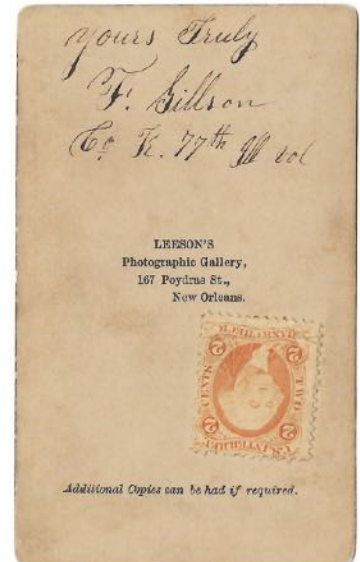
John Camp (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



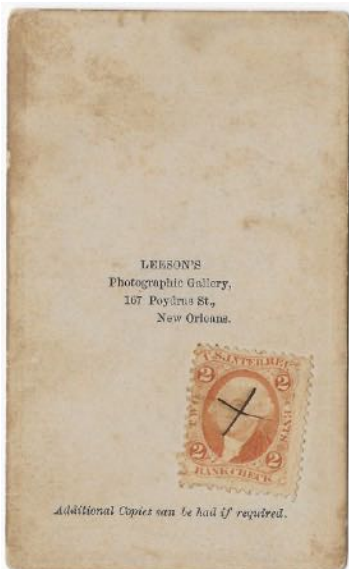
Imle E. Coulson (Rosefield)
Corporal, Company K



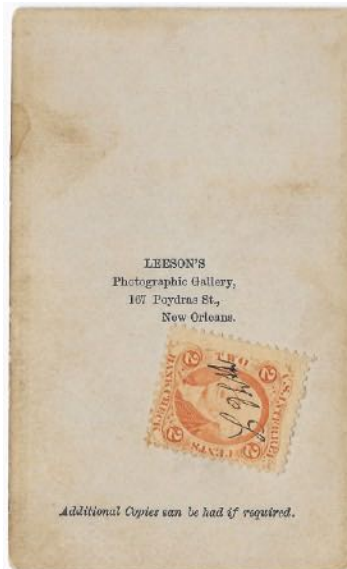
George W. Edwards (Rosefield)
Sergeant, Company K



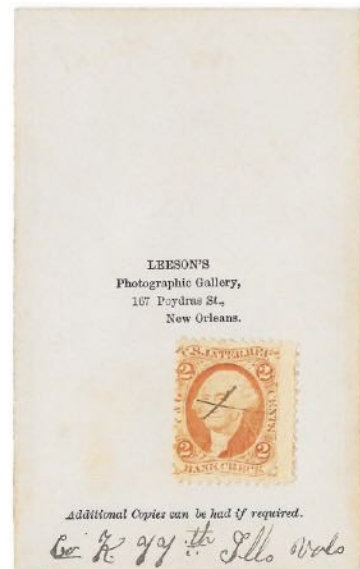
Frederick Gilson (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



Oswald B. Green (Rosefield)
Corporal, Company K

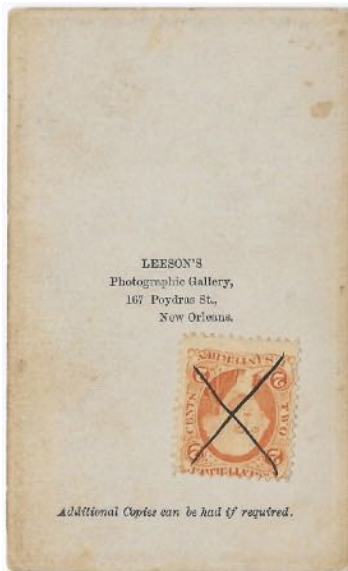


Thomas J. Holt (Rosefield)
Private, Company K

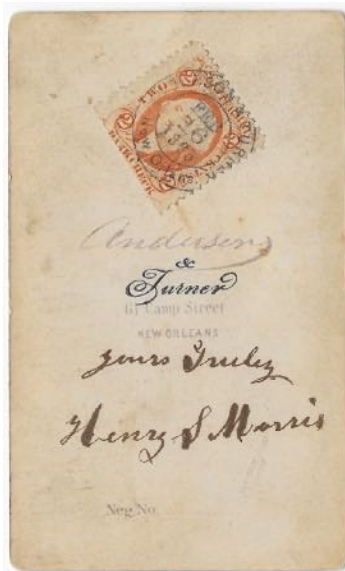


Samuel Kirkman (Kickapoo)
Private, Company K

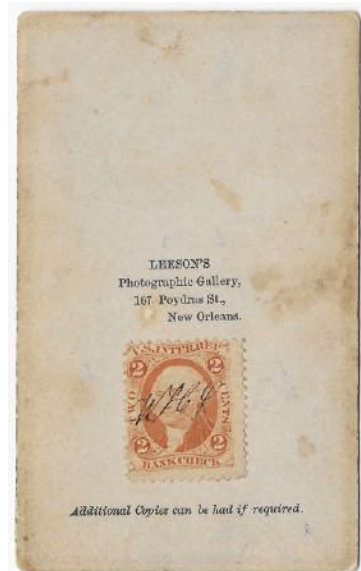
CdV Reverse sides



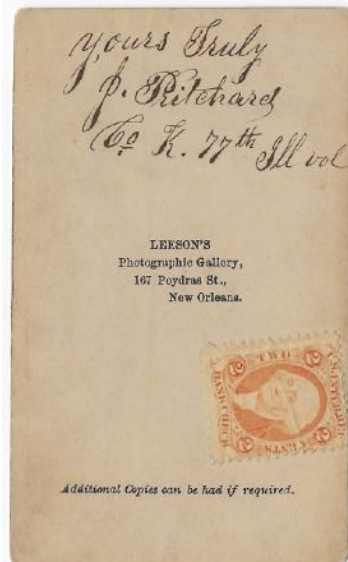
John LaFollette (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



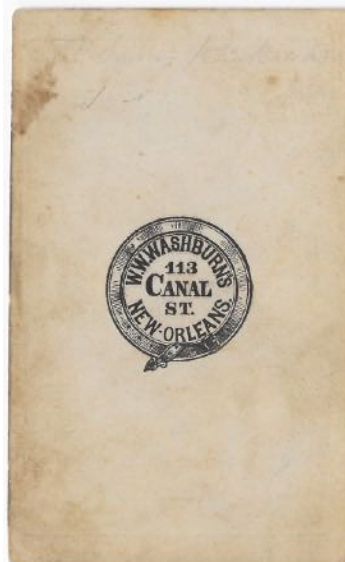
Henry S. Morris (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



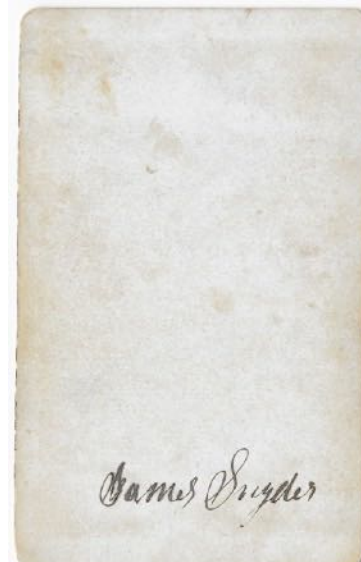
Richard Morris (Rosefield)
Private, Company K



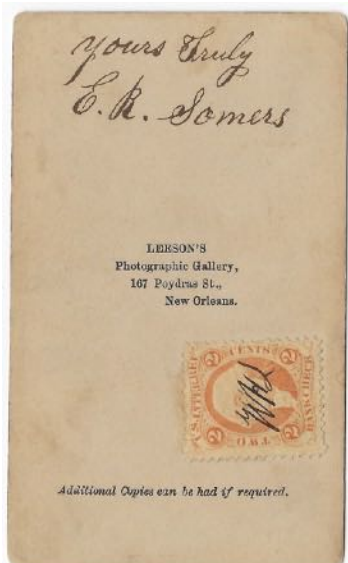
John Pritchard (Kickapoo)
Private, Company K



Louis (Medina) and Lyman (Rosefield) Rench
Wagoner, Company E and Private, Company K



Jacob H. Snyder (Elmwood)
Musician, Company I



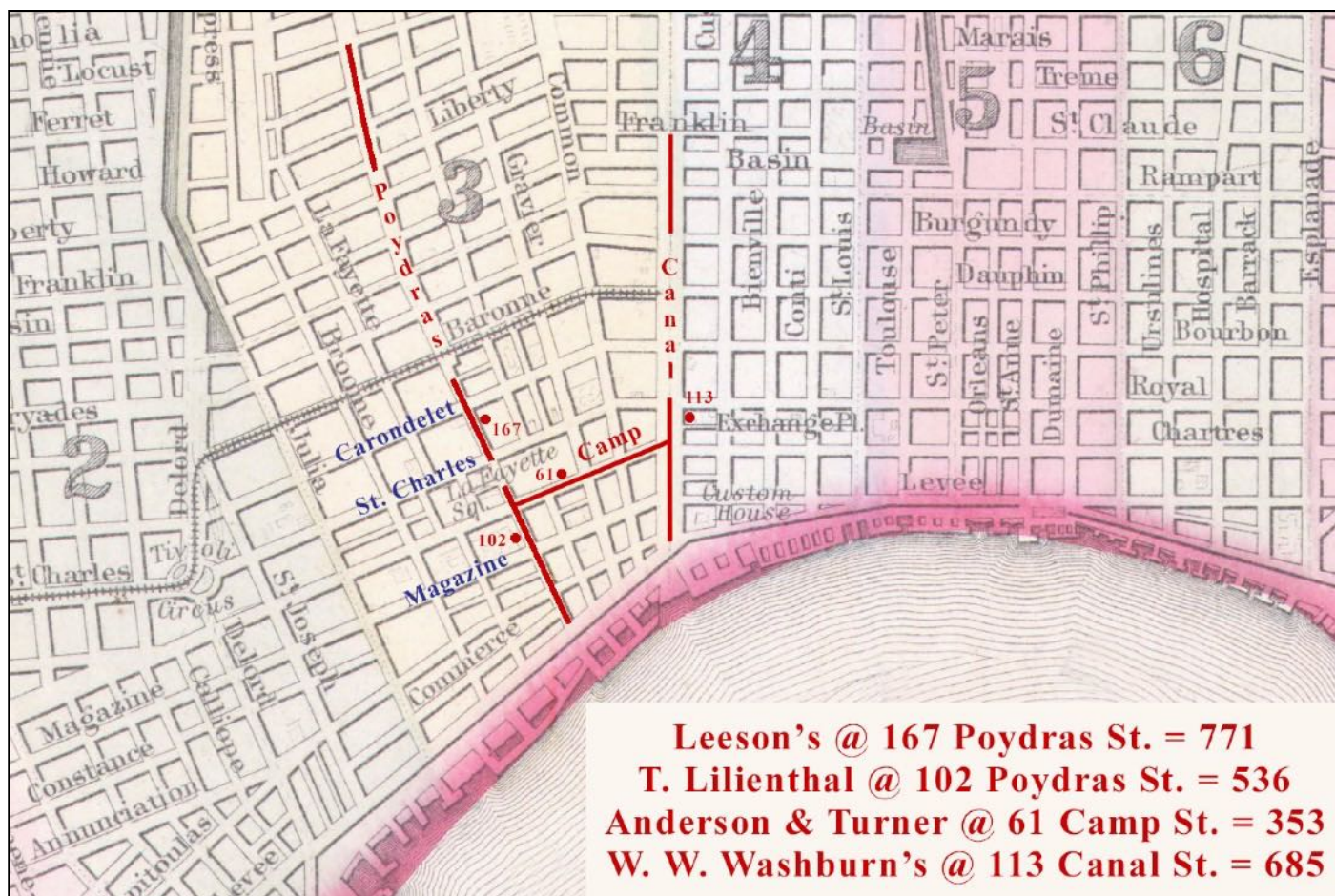
Edwin R. Somers (Peoria)
Private, Company K



Jacob W. Wilkin (Marshall)
Captain, Company C



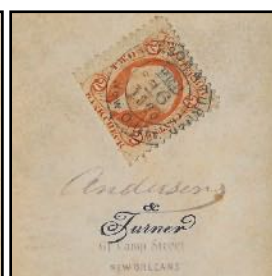
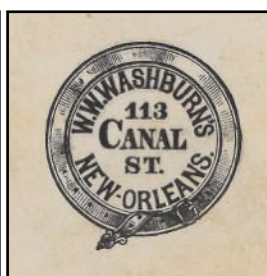
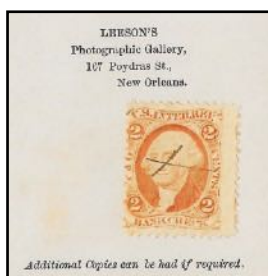
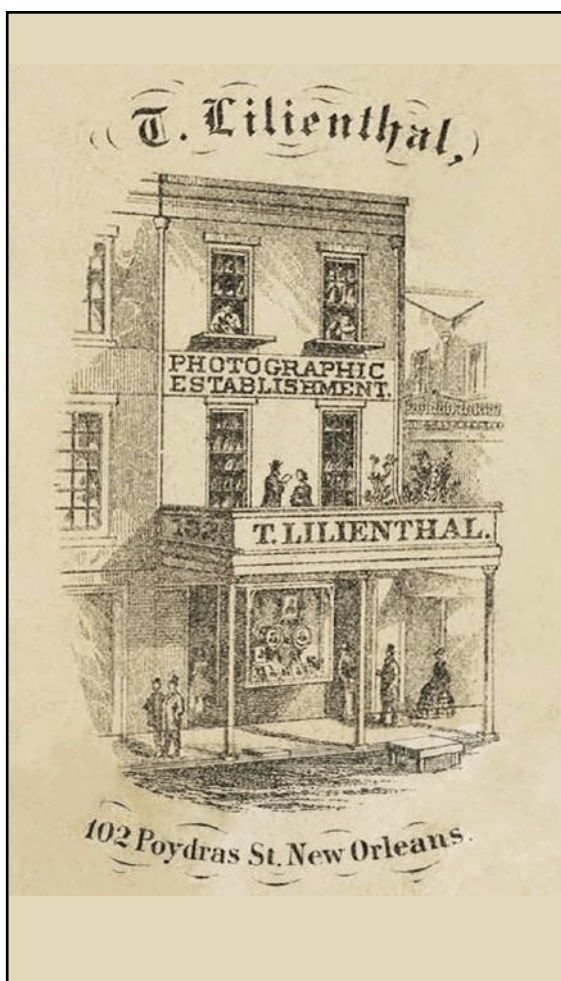
Unknown soldier



Above: Superimposed on the *New Orleans from 1864 Mitchell Plate* map are the street locations of four studios that produced the carte de visite photographs presented in this book — **Leeson's** at 167 Poydras (between Magazine and Camp), **Anderson & Turner** at 61 Camp (between Gravier and Natchez), **W. W. Washburn's** at 113 Canal (between Chartes and Royal), and **T. Lilienthal** at 102 Poydras (between St. Charles and Carondelet). Because the New Orleans street numbering system was completely changed in the early 1890s, their Civil War addresses were converted to new using an online resource available from the New Orleans Public Library. The estimated new address is provided. (e.g. 771 Poydras St.)

Left: This line drawing of T. Lilienthal's gallery was printed on the reverse side of several of their CdVs found in the collection of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, Springfield, Illinois. Lilienthal's "photographic establishment" was operated by a photographer named Theodore Lilienthal.

Below: The reverse side of CdVs very often identified their gallery photographer, such as William Leeson (L), William W. Washburn (C), and Samuel Anderson / Austin Turner (R).



SECTION II



CARTE DE VISITE SOLDIER BIOGRAPHIES

KIRKMAN**Samuel Kirkman**

(1845-1931)

Private, Company K, 77th Illinois
Kickapoo Township, Peoria County, IllinoisFamilySearch ID:
LH8T-V2C

Samuel Kirkman was born on May 16, 1845 in Harwood, Bolton borough, Lancashire, England, which is about 10 miles northwest of the city of Manchester. He was one of at least five men in Company K who were born near Manchester, England. [\[See Section IV\]](#). Samuel was the son of Robert Kirkman (1811-1891) and Alice Bromley Kirkman (1815-1890). Samuel had five brothers and five sisters. Samuel was christened on August 17, 1845 at Bolton le Moors Christ Church in Walmsley (Egerton), Lancashire, England. In 1857, when Samuel was 12, his family emigrated to America aboard the full-rigged ship

West Point, which arrived in New York on December 7, 1857.

Sometime between their arrival in 1857 and the 1860 Census, the Kirkman family re-located to Kickapoo Township in Peoria County, Illinois. By 1860, Samuel was working as a farm hand (and likely living with) the Richard Howard family near Kickapoo. When the Civil War began in April of 1861, he was just a month short of his sixteenth birthday.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On Wednesday, August 13, 1862, despite the fact that he was nine months short of the minimum enlistment age of 18, Samuel Kirkman volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 10½ inches tall with grey eyes, dark hair, and a dark complexion. During the Civil War, records show that Samuel was slightly wounded at the Battle of Fort Hindman (a.k.a. Arkansas Post) on January 11, 1863. Nearly three years after enlistment, Samuel mustered out of his regiment on July 10, 1865.

For Samuel, the end of war meant a return to farming in Peoria County. On February 21, 1867, at the age of 21, he married Louisa Greenhalgh (born February 24, 1845) in Peoria, Illinois, with Reverend J. H. Morron performing the ceremony. Like Samuel, Louisa had also been born in Bolton, Lancashire, England. In the years that followed, the Kirkmans had three children who survived infancy — Alice Ann (b. 1868), Mary (or “Millie”) (b. 1871), and Robert (b. 1873).

In 1870, the couple moved to Richwoods Township, closer to the city of Peoria. In 1874, they moved back to Kickapoo Township, and in 1898 they moved to Logan Township, which is southwest of Kickapoo Township.

Because of his honorable discharge, Samuel was eligible for a government pension and received one. His wife Louisa died on September 9, 1901, at the age of

56. Samuel outlived his wife by 30 years, dying on September 13, 1931 at the age of 86. He and his wife are buried in Cottonwood Cemetery, near the small town of Edwards in Peoria County, Illinois.

Ancestral Connections: Years after the war, on Thursday, February 18, 1892, Samuel Kirkman's daughter (Alice Ann Kirkman) married Daniel Slane's grandson (John Franklin Doubet), thereby connecting Samuel Kirkman to Daniel Slane's family. Daniel Slane had briefly been part of the 77th Illinois before the authorities realized that, at age 58, he was too old to serve in the army.

Fellow soldiers Jacob and John LaFollette were the nephews of Daniel Slane's wife, Mahala LaFollette Slane, so they also became kin with Samuel Kirkman because of this same 1892 marriage.

And as a final consequence of this 1892 Kirkman-Doubet marriage, Samuel Kirkman would become the author's great-great grandfather, Daniel Slane would become the author's 3rd great grandfather, and the LaFollette brothers would become the author's first cousins, 4 times removed.

Samuel Kirkman's younger sister Mary Jane (1846 - 1911) married William W. King in February of 1866. Like Samuel, King had served as a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois, making him the husband of the author's 2nd great-grandaunt.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Bromley, Grandage, Greenhalgh, Rothwell, Doubet, Agan, Kingsley, Dumars, Perry, May, Meyers, King, Heathcote, Fennell, Graham

Sources: From my own family's genealogical records, *FamilySearch* ID **LH8T-V2C**, and *Ancestry.com* accounts **marysgirl2002** and **tempother**.



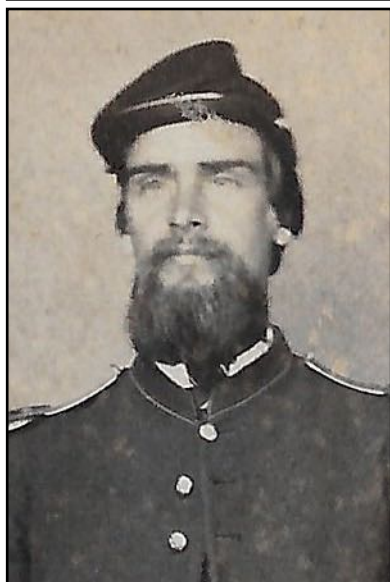
Samuel Kirkman is the man standing in this early twentieth century photograph. The man seated is James Walker, Samuel's brother-in-law who lived in Oregon.

PRITCHARD

John Pritchard

(1838-1911)

Private, Company K, 77th Illinois
Kickapoo Township, Peoria County, Illinois



John Pritchard, Jr. was one of five men who, like Samuel Kirkman, were born near Manchester, England. [\[See Section IV\]](#). He was born in Heywood, Lancashire on April 28, 1838, and lived with his family in nearby Bury, Lancashire. John Jr. was the fourth child born to John Pritchard (b. 1811) and Ann Lonsdale (b. 1810), but sadly, he was their first child to survive past the age of 2½ years.

The family emigrated to the United States in 1843 just as John Jr. turned 5 years old, arriving in New Orleans from Liverpool on a ship named *Bornholm*. The 1850 Census confirmed that the Pritchards were residents of Peoria County, Illinois, the family consisting of father John, mother Ann (Lonsdale), John Jr., and five younger siblings. Ten years later, two additional children joined the family, bringing the total number to ten.

When the Civil War broke out in 1861, John Sr., John Jr. and Thomas were working as farmers in Kickapoo Township, Peoria County, Illinois. Of all the soldiers represented by Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection, John Pritchard was the only other man who, like Kirkman, lived in Kickapoo Township. [Kickapoo Township lies just west of the city of Peoria, and today includes the towns of Kickapoo, Edwards, and Pottstown, as well as Wildlife Prairie Park].

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 16, 1862, at the age of 24, John volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 9 inches tall. He mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865. John's younger brother Thomas (b. 1839) also served in the Civil War, having joined the 47th Illinois Volunteer Infantry on September 4, 1861, about a year before John enlisted.

One noteworthy characteristic about the Pritchard family was that John and two of his siblings would marry three Lonsdale siblings who were their first cousins. The first of these marriages was John's younger brother Thomas, who married Mary Lonsdale on February 1, 1865. About a year later, on March 8, 1866, John Jr. married Mary's older sister Ellen Lonsdale (b. 1842), who was four years younger than John. On June 25, 1873, John's younger sister Sarah would marry Ellis Lonsdale. Such marriages were not particularly rare at the time, and first-cousin marriages remained legal in Illinois until 1887.

John and Ellen would raise seven children, with all but the first son surviving to adulthood. Their youngest child, Archie, lived 77 years, dying in 1961.

In 1878, at the age of 40, John Jr. and his brother Thomas moved to York County, Nebraska to farm a 160-acre tract of land. Around 1903, at the age of 65, John moved again, this time to Spokane County, Washington. He would live the remainder of his life there. His wife Ellen died on July 30, 1907, at the age of 65. John died nearly four years later, on June 9, 1911 at the age of 73. He is buried in the Greenwood Memorial Terrace in Spokane, Washington.

Ancestral Connections: None. However, John Pritchard is buried in the same cemetery — Greenwood Memorial Terrace in Spokane County, Washington — as fellow solidier Imle Coulson. Given this cemetery's great distance from central Illinois, each man's decision to move to this part of the country may not have been purely coincidental.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Lonsdale, Halstead, Crabtree, Rider, McCarty, Hardin, Fulk, Dutton, Buckley, Kershaw, Mullen, Cochran, Pilkington

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **jing2011**, **Heather Vining**, and **SWerle**



John, wife Ellen, and youngest son Arch, circa 1886. Posted to *Ancestry.com* by **jing2011**.

GREEN



Oswald Byron Green

(1828-1903)

Corporal, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:

9VHC-PNF



Oswald Byron Green was one of five men who, like Samuel Kirkman, were born near Manchester, England. [\[See Section IV\]](#). Oswald was born on July 23, 1828 in Manchester to parents Will (b. 1810) and Elizabeth (b. 1805) Green.

In May of 1845, at the age of 16, Oswald emigrated to the United States, arriving in New Orleans from Liverpool on a ship named *Saldan*. Only Oswald and his parents' names are listed in the ship's register, supporting records that suggest that Oswald was an only child. It is not clear when the Green family arrived in central Illinois, although it was certainly before September of 1854, when Oswald wed and settled in Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois. [Rosefield Township lies just west of Kickapoo Township, and today includes the town of Oak Hill].

Oswald's wife, Elizabeth Morris, had also been born in the Manchester area, specifically in Heywood, Lancashire, in 1836. In 1841 or 1842, when Elizabeth was either five or six, she emigrated with her father, mother, an older sister and an older brother from Liverpool to New York. Birth records of her later siblings suggest that the Morris' had relocated to Peoria County, Illinois by early 1845.

Oswald married Elizabeth Morris on September 24, 1854. They welcomed their first child, Ida A., in July of 1856. Their second child, Sarah Anne, was born in March of 1858, but died 18 months later. Their third child, John O., was born in October of 1860, and their fourth child, Walter J., was born on July 2, 1862.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 14, 1862, a month after their fourth child was born, Oswald volunteered for service in the Union Army. He was 34 years old. Perhaps because he was a little older than other volunteers, he was given the rank of Corporal in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 5 inches tall. He mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865.

After the war, Oswald and Elizabeth had four additional children. Their fifth child, Ruth, died after two weeks. Their sixth child, Mary, was born in February of 1868. Their seventh and final child, William Everette, was born in March of 1874 and lived 81 years, until early August of 1955.

Oswald remained in Rosefield Township of Peoria County, Illinois for the remainder of his life. He died on February 14, 1903 at the age of 74. His wife Elizabeth died four months later on June 21, 1903 at the age of 67. They are both buried in Texas Station Cemetery near Hanna City, Illinois.

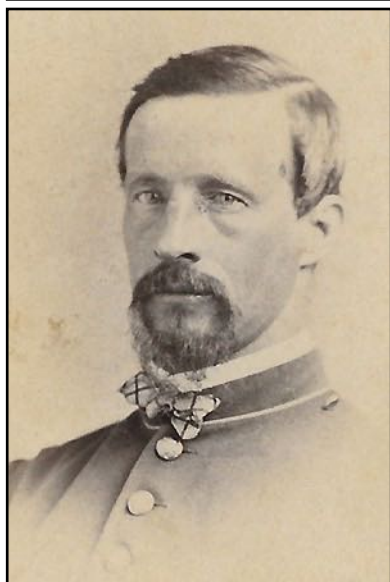
Ancestral Connections: Oswald Green's wife Elizabeth was the first cousin of both Henry and Richard Morris. They shared the same grandfather, James Morris (1774 - 1841). Elizabeth's father was John (b. 1803), while Henry and Richard's father was Richard (b. 1804). Since Oswald and Elizabeth wed before the Civil War began, this kinship existed during the war.

After the war, an ancestral connection between Oswald Green and Thomas Holt was created when Oswald and Elizabeth Green's daughter Mary (1868 - 1942) married Thomas and Eliza Holt's son Herbert (1866 - 1955) in 1893.

Same Surname: There was an Edward F. Green in Company A of the 77th Illinois, but he was probably not related to Oswald. Edward's home was listed as Galesburg, Illinois. He mustered in as a Private on August 5, 1862, and mustered out as a Corporal on June 17, 1865.

Related Surnames: Morris, Ashton, Harding, Moody, Forsyth, Holt, Couch

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **crystald103** and **Jimbotampa**

MORRIS**Henry S. Morris**

(1833-1888)

FamilySearch ID:
L289-XY4

Private (to Second Lieutenant), Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

Henry S. Morris was one of five men who, like Samuel Kirkman, were born near Manchester, England. [\[See Section IV\]](#). Henry and his younger brother Richard were both soldiers in Co. K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Henry was born on April 16, 1833 in Heywood, Lancashire, England to Richard Morris (b. 1804) and Anne Greenbough (b. 1806). Henry had an older sister, an older brother, and a younger brother Richard. Sadly, both of Henry's parents died when he was a child. His father Richard died at the young age of 35 on the last day of 1839, when Henry was 6. His mother Anne died at the age of 34 in August of the following year, when Henry was 7. It appears that his paternal grandparents — James Morris and Ann Manock — became his guardians.

A year after that (in early 1841), some of Henry's extended family — namely his grandfather James, uncle John, and several cousins — boarded the ship *Siddons* and emigrated from Liverpool to New York, arriving on March 25. Also listed on the manifest was his older brother James, who was 10 at the time. Henry's name was not on the ship's manifest, so it is unclear whether he was also on board but not listed, or emigrated to America at a later time. Logically, Henry would have been on board, since his grandparent guardians were so listed.

Eight months after their arrival in the United States, Henry's grandfather James died at the age of 67. His place of death was listed as Peoria County, Illinois, so apparently the Morris family had moved there not long after their arrival in America. James' widow, Ann Manock, died the following year (October, 1850) also at the age of 67. Henry was 17 years old and, like his brother Richard, had once again lost his (surrogate) parents.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. In August of 1862, at the age of 29, Henry Morris volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 5 inches tall. War records indicate that he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant (the entry-level rank for commissioned officers) some time later in the war. He mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865.

After the war, Henry married Eliza Ann Holt, who was 11 years his junior. They had two children — Albert J., who was born in May of 1872, and Elizabeth (known as

“Tibby”), who was born in May of 1874. Albert would live to see age 48, while Tibby lived to age 70.

The 1880 Census showed that Henry, Eliza, Albert, and Tibby had moved to Waldo Township in Livingston County, Illinois. His occupation was listed as a farmer.

At some time between 1880 and 1888, the Morrises moved back to near Hanna City in Peoria County. Tragically, on April 28, 1888 at the age of 55, Henry Morris died in a carriage accident near Hanna City. An inquest determined that Henry broke his neck in a fall from his spring wagon en route back home from Peoria. He was subsequently buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery near Eden, Illinois in Peoria County.

Henry’s wife Eliza would outlive her husband by 23 years. The 1890 Census indicated that she had moved into the home of her son Albert (A.J.) who was then living in Monmouth Township, Warren County, Illinois. Eliza died on November 13, 1911 and was buried beside her husband in Pleasant Grove Cemetery.

Photo Note: Henry Morris’ CdV was the only one in the collection that was produced by the Anderson & Turner gallery at 61 Camp Street in New Orleans.

Ancestral Connections: After the war, three marriages would ancestrally connect the Morris family to the Holt family. Company K soldiers Thomas Holt and his brother (younger Richard) would marry sisters Eliza (1841-1912) and Charlotte (1848-1923) Morris, who were first cousins to Company K soldiers Henry and Richard Morris.

An additional connection between Thomas Holt and Henry Morris would be made sometime between 1865 and 1870, when Henry Morris married Eliza Ann Holt (1844-1911), who was the sister of Thomas J. Holt. This also made Thomas and Henry brothers-in-law.

Yet another connection between Thomas Holt and the Morris brothers (Henry and Richard) would come when Thomas’ younger brother Richard M. Holt (b. 1843) married Charlotte Morris (b. 1848), who was the niece of Richard Morris (father of the Morris brothers).

Same Surname: Henry and his younger brother Richard were both soldiers in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. There was also a Wilson G. Morris in Company E, but he was probably not related to Henry or Richard. Wilson’s home was listed as Radnor Township, Peoria County, Illinois. Wilson mustered in as a Private on August 5, 1862, and deserted on September 19, 1862.

Related Surnames: Greenbough, Manock, Pilling, Holt, Ingham, Cottingham, Greenough, Basett

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **mernajoyjones** and **doris hollyman-pitkanen**, and **Jimbotampa**

MORRIS**Richard Morris**

(1837-1910)

Private, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, IllinoisFamilySearch ID:
G41B-531

Richard Morris was one of five men who, like Samuel Kirkman, were born near Manchester, England. [\[See Section IV\]](#). Richard and his older brother Henry were both soldiers in Co. K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Richard was born in September of 1837 to Richard Morris (b. 1804) and Anne Greenbough (b. 1806). Although records on Richard are not as complete as those for his older brother (Henry), one may presume that Richard was also born in Heywood, Lancashire, England. Richard had an older sister and two older brothers. Sadly, both of Richard's parents died when he was a child. His father Richard died at the young age of 35 on the last day of 1839, when Richard was 2. His mother Anne died at the age of 34 in August of the following year, when Henry was nearly 3. As with his siblings, it appears that his paternal grandparents — James Morris and Ann Manock — became his guardians.

A year after that (early 1841), some of Richard's extended family — namely his grandfather James, uncle John, and several cousins — boarded the ship *Siddons* and emigrated from Liverpool to New York, arriving on March 25. Also listed on the manifest was his older brother James, who was 10 at the time. Richard's name was not on the ship's manifest, so it is unclear whether he was also on board but not listed, or emigrated to America at a later time. Logically, Richard would have been on board, since his grandparent guardians were so listed.

Eight months after their arrival in the United States, Richard's grandfather James died at the age of 67. His place of death was listed as Peoria County, Illinois, so apparently the Morris family had moved there not long after their arrival in America. His widow, Ann Manock, died the following year (October, 1850) also at the age of 67. Richard was 13 years old and, like his brother Henry, had once again lost his (surrogate) parents.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 12, 1862, a month before his 25th birthday, Richard volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 2½ inches tall. He mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865.

After the war, Richard married Sarah Ann Besett in Peoria County, Illinois on June 2, 1870. Richard was 32 years old and Sarah was almost 19. In the 1880 Census, Richard and Sarah had moved to Minonk in Woodford County, Illinois, which is on the other side of the Illinois River from Peoria County. He listed his

occupation as a farmer. In the 1900 Census, when Richard was 62 and Sarah was 48, they had taken in a boarder named George Simpson. By the 1910 Census, that boarder was gone but was replaced by Sarah's brother, Henry Besett. By 1910, Richard and Sarah had moved once again, this time to El Paso, Illinois, which is about 12 miles to the south.

Sometime later in 1910, Richard died and was buried in Evergreen Cemetery in El Paso, Illinois. According to his cemetery tombstone, his wife Sarah followed him in death in 1916.

Ancestral Connections: After the war, three marriages would ancestrally connect the Morris family to the Holt family. Company K soldiers Thomas Holt and his brother (younger Richard) would marry sisters Eliza (1841-1912) and Charlotte (1848-1923) Morris, who were first cousins to Company K soldiers Henry and Richard Morris.

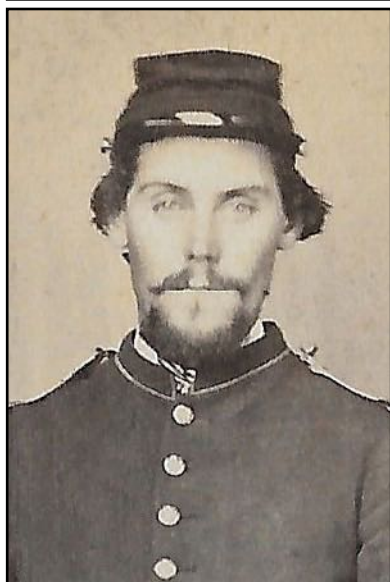
Yet another connection between Thomas Holt and the Morris brothers (Henry and Richard) would come when Thomas' younger brother Richard M. Holt (b. 1843) married Charlotte Morris (b. 1848), who was the niece of Richard Morris (father of the Morris brothers).

Same Surname: Richard and his older brother Henry were both soldiers in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. There was also a Wilson G. Morris in Company E, but he was probably not related to Henry or Richard. Wilson's home was listed as Radnor Township, Peoria County, Illinois. Wilson mustered in as a Private on August 5, 1862, and deserted on September 19, 1862.

Related Surnames: Greenbough, Manock, Pilling, Besett, Greenough, Holt

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **Jimbotampa**, **becky thomas**, and **doris hollyman-pitkanen**

HOLT



Thomas J. Holt

(1838-1918)

Private, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
K64P-D29

Thomas J. Holt was one of five men who, like Samuel Kirkman, were born near Manchester, England. [\[See Section IV\]](#). Thomas was born on November 8, 1838 to James W. Holt (b. 1817) and Ellen Ingham (b. 1819), most likely in or near Bury, Lancashire. His parents had wed in January of that same year, and Thomas was their first child.

Census records indicate that Thomas emigrated to the United States with his parents in 1842, when he was 4 years old. New Holt children — four girls and two boys — came regularly between the family's arrival and the 1850 Census. One final boy would be born in November of 1853, expanding the number of Holt children to eight. Sadly, one of the girls would die in 1860 at age 10, but all other Holt children lived well into the twentieth century.

Thomas Holt married Eliza Katherine Morris from Hopwood, Lancashire, England on December 28, 1858. Eliza was about two years younger than Thomas. Eliza had emigrated to America as an infant in 1841 and she too came from a large family of 7 sisters and 4 brothers, all but 2 of which survived infancy. In the 1860 Census, Thomas and Eliza were listed as residents of Trivoli, Illinois in the western part of Peoria County, Illinois. On August 1, 1861, Thomas and Eliza welcomed their first child — Margaret or "Maggie." A week after Margaret's first birthday — August 8, 1862 — Thomas volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 6 inches tall. He mustered out of the army on June 17, 1865.

After the war, Thomas and Eliza had two additional children — Herbert L. in October of 1866 and Nelly in 1869 — before moving to Nebraska Township in Livingston County, Illinois sometime before the 1870 Census.

Now farming in Livingston County, Illinois, Thomas and Eliza had three additional children — Harry J. in October of 1870, Anna Janet "Nettie" in September of 1872, and Sarah or "Sadie" in May of 1876.

Sometime after Sadie's birth, the Holts moved back to Rosefield Township in Peoria County, where Robert Morris was born in February of 1879 and Eliza Kate "Katie" was born in August of 1881, bringing their total number of children to 8.

Thomas' mother Ellen died in June of 1891, followed by his father James almost exactly one year later.

The 1900 Census indicated yet another move to nearby Logan Township, Peoria County, where Thomas, Eliza, and their 21-year-old son Robert lived under one roof. It is here, in Logan Township, that Thomas and Eliza spent the remaining years of their life.

Eliza died on March 7, 1912 at the age of 71. Thomas would live an additional six years, dying on November 21, 1918, thirteen days after his 80th birthday. They were both buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery near Eden, Illinois in Peoria County. Also buried in Pleasant Grove Cemetery were: 1) Thomas' parents, James and Ellen, 2) Eliza Ann Holt, who was Thomas' sister and the wife of Henry S. Morris, and 3) Henry S. Morris, Thomas' brother in arms from Co. K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Ancestral Connections: After the war, an ancestral connection between Oswald Green and Thomas Holt was created when Oswald and Elizabeth Green's daughter Mary (1868 - 1942) married Thomas and Eliza Holt's son Herbert (1866 - 1955) in 1893.

After the war, three marriages would ancestrally connect the Morris family to the Holt family. Company K soldiers Thomas Holt and his brother (younger Richard) would marry sisters Eliza (1841-1912) and Charlotte (1848-1923) Morris, who were both first cousins to Company K soldiers Henry and Richard Morris.

An additional connection between Thomas Holt and Henry Morris would be made sometime between 1865 and 1870, when Henry Morris married Eliza Ann Holt (1844-1911), who was the sister of Thomas J. Holt. This also made Thomas and Henry brothers-in-law.

Yet another connection between Thomas Holt and the Morris brothers (Henry and Richard) would come when Thomas' younger brother Richard M. Holt (b. 1843) married Charlotte Morris (b. 1848), who was the niece of Richard Morris (father of the Morris brothers).

Same Surname: In addition to Thomas Holt, there was a Servetus Holt and two Richard M. Holts listed in Bentley's regimental history. All four Holts were related and all four were in Company K of the 77th Illinois. The oldest of the three was Richard Mathias Holt (1828-1864), who mustered in as a Corporal on August 9, 1862, at the age of 34. At some point in time, he was promoted to Sergeant. The regimental history shows that the elder Richard was wounded at the Battle of Mansfield on April 8, 1864, and died of disease (perhaps related to those injuries) in Peoria, Illinois on October 5, 1864, at the age of 36.

Richard Mathias Holt's younger brother was Servatus Sebastian Holt (1830-1897), who mustered in as a Sergeant on August 9, 1862, at the age of 31. According to Bentley's regimental history, Servatus was injured during the Vicksburg campaign in late-May of 1863. The following year, he was captured during the Battle of Mansfield on April 8, 1864 and, along with over 1,900 other Union soldiers (143 from his 77th Illinois regiment, with 7 of those from Company K), would spend more than 13 months in a rebel stockade at Camp Ford in Tyler, Texas, before being released on May 17, 1865. He formally mustered out of the regiment on June 17, 1865. Servatus moved to Livingston County, Illinois prior to the 1870 Census. He moved to Kansas prior to 1885, which is where he would die in 1897, just shy of age 67.

Richard Mathias and Servatus Holt were both uncles to the younger two Holts — Thomas and a younger Richard M. Holt (1843-1913). Young Richard mustered in as a Private on August 8, 1862 and was discharged for disability on February 16, 1864, before the regiment began its spring advance that would include the ill-fated Red River Campaign. Young Richard would recover, marry in 1868, father a number of children, and live to age 70.

A final footnote: The father of Thomas and young Richard was James (1817-1892), who was at the maximum age of enlistment of 45 when his two younger brothers and two of his sons joined the Union army. James did not.

Related Surnames: Ingham, Barlow, Wild, Cooper, Morris, Wrigley, Andrews, Green, Copper, Greenough, Collinge, Fuller, Ramshaw, Bagg

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **mernajoyjones**, **lilsammiesmom**, and **janetkelly36**

GILSON



Frederick Francis Gilson

FamilySearch ID:
9QNF-MS3

(1841-1914)

Private, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

Frederick Francis Gilson was one of six men who, like Samuel Kirkman, were born in England. [\[See Section IV\]](#). Unlike the other five, however, Frederick was born about 200 miles south of the Manchester area, in Holcombe, Somerset, in July of 1841, to George Gilson (b. 1805) and Martha Helliard (b. 1805). Fred was the fourth of six children, and the only son.

Information obtained by the 1900 Census indicates that Frederick emigrated to the United States in 1843, when he was 2 years old. Not much could be found about the Gilson family in the years that followed, except that they eventually settled in Rosefield Township of Peoria County, Illinois and the father farmed.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 9, 1862, at the age of 21, Frederick volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 5 inches tall. He mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865.

Presumably, sometime after the war Frederick moved to Caldwell County, Missouri, because it was here that he married Kepta Elsie Keeney on July 2, 1873. His new wife, who was born in February of 1853 and nearly 12 years his junior, was from east central Indiana (i.e. Noble Township of Jay County). She was also about four months pregnant at the time of their marriage, giving birth to their first child (Herbert L.) on December 11, 1873. Sadly, he died 19 days later.

Sometime in 1874 the Gilsens moved west to the Dakota Territory (which later became North and South Dakota), perhaps drawn by the Black Hills Gold Rush, which began in 1874 and reached a peak in 1876 and 1877. It was here that Kepta Elsie gave birth to twins on January 2, 1875 — Mary Etta May and Albert K. Mary Etta May would live to age 54, dying in November of 1929 in Hennepin, Illinois. Albert (or Allen) would die in July of 1899 at the age of 24 in Peoria, Illinois.

Like many others who sought riches in the Black Hills during the mid-1870s, the Gilson's time in the Dakota Territory was not long. By the Census of 1880 showed that Fred, "Elsie," Albert, and Mary had moved back in Davis Township, Caldwell County, Missouri. Fred's occupation was listed as farmer.

Circumstances changed again for the Gilsens, and sometime between the 1880 Census and the birth of their next child in September of 1883, they had moved back to central Illinois. William Henry Gilson was born on September 15, 1883 in

Peoria. It is unclear how long William lived, but census records show him living in Rock Island, Illinois in 1940, aged 56.

Their final child, Charles Edgar, was born on May 29, 1888, lived much of his life in Galesburg, Illinois, and died there in November of 1969 at the age of 81.

The 1900 Census showed that Fred, Elsie, William, and Charles, along with a 20-year-old niece named Rosa H. Egg, lived in Chestnut Township of Knox County, Illinois, which is southeast of Galesburg.

Ten years later, the 1910 Census showed that Fred, Elsie, and William were still living together, along with a 35-year-old “hired man” named John Wolley. However, by 1910, they were living in Ward 7 of Galesburg, Illinois. It is here that Frederick Gilson died on July 8, 1914 at the age of 73. He is buried in Linwood Cemetery on the outskirts of Galesburg, Illinois, along with his son Charles.

Ancestral Connections: Frederick Gilson is the husband of Kepta Keeney, who is the author’s 9th cousin, twice removed.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Helliard, Horler, Grove, Keeney, Whittecar, Wallin, Moody

Sources: *FamilySearch* ID **9QNF-MS3**. *Ancestry.com* accounts **Michelle Unland**, **Sharonbees17**, **s_dondlinger52**, **Jessica Rivera**, **David Myers**

EDWARDS



George Washington Edwards

(1841-1921)

Sergeant, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:

LH6D-16Y



Named for our nation's first president, George Washington Edwards was born on October 26, 1841 in or near Edwards, Illinois in Peoria County to Thomas Justin Edwards (b. 1790) and Eleanor Scott (b. 1800). George was the youngest of six children.

The Edwards family was a long and distinguished line of family members. According to *Ancestry.com*, the first of the Edwards family to reach America was Alexander Edwards. He arrived from Wales via Bristol, England about 1640 and married in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1642. He was a founder of Northampton, Massachusetts. He was the fourth great-grandfather of George Washington Edwards (GWE). His son Joseph moved to Concord Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania (near Philadelphia) before 1697 where a son, also named Joseph, was born in that year.

The younger Joseph (second great-grandfather of GWE) moved west to what is now Hampshire County, West Virginia (then Virginia) in 1734. He settled at Cold Stream, the present village of Capon Bridge. This is in the mountains on the west side of the Shenandoah Valley, 30 miles west of Winchester, Virginia and just three miles from the Virginia state line. In the 1740s, George Washington was surveying for Lord Fairfax in this area and did some surveying for Joseph.

To protect Virginia's western frontier during the French and Indian War, a string of frontier forts was established and manned by troops from Colonel George Washington's Virginia Regiment. One of these forts was on Joseph's property and was named Fort Edwards. On April 18, 1756, a group of soldiers from Fort Edwards was ambushed by French and Indian raiders and 17 men were killed. At the Fort Edwards location today there is an archeological site with a small visitor center and museum open to the public.

It should be noted that in the time period around 1800, ancestors of Privates John LaFollette, Jacob LaFollette, and Daniel Slane would mingle with those of Private George Washington Edwards in this area.

The Edwards clan remained in Hampshire County for a century. In 1835, Thomas Justin Edwards, father of GWE, moved to Peoria County, Illinois where GWE was born in 1841. It's interesting to note that both Daniel Fletcher Slane and Mahala LaFollette were also born in Hampshire County, although they were married in Guernsey County, Ohio.

The Edwards family owned property on Bear Garden Mountain, a forested mountain ridge in Hampshire County, Virginia (now West Virginia). Operating in Virginia, the Thomas Edwards family owned and/or managed slaves. The 1820

Federal Census listed five free whites and one male slave under the age of 14, all engaged in manufacturing.

In the 1820s, Thomas and Eleanor welcomed their first four children — two sons, Edward David (b. 1820) and Sylvester Samuel (b. 1827), and two daughters, Joanna Catharine (b. 1823) and Isadore E. (b. 1829). The 1830 Federal Census confirmed these family members, and also indicated the presence of two male slaves under the age of 10 and one female slave between the ages of 10 and 23.

In 1835, Thomas sold his sawmill property in Capon Springs in Hampshire County for \$3,000, traveled to Illinois by covered wagon, and settled on his military grant of land on Kickapoo Creek, Illinois, nine miles west of Peoria. Included in that trek was Letta Brooks, a 58-year-old black woman, who had been one of their slaves and was smuggled into Illinois, presumably freed in the process.

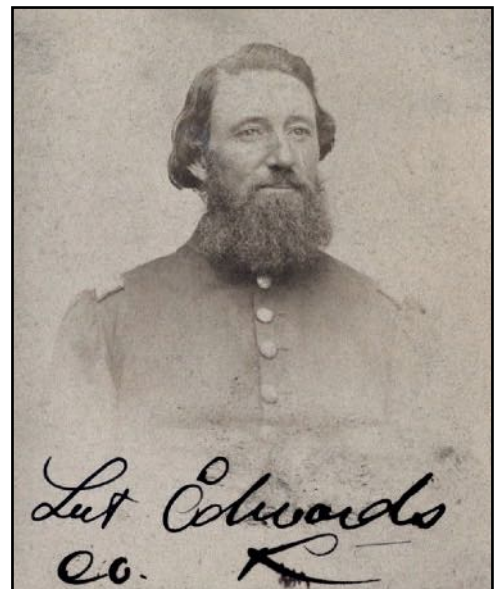
Sometime in 1838, the Edwards welcomed their fifth child and third daughter, Sarah Jane. In November of that year, the family purchased a total of 160 acres on the west half of the NE and SE quarters in Section 24, Rosefield Township for \$1.25 per acre, totaling \$200.

The patriarch of the family, Thomas Justin Edwards, died on March 7, 1856 at the age of 66. From the History of Peoria County, Illinois, published in 1880, comes this:

In 1857, when the Peoria, Oquawka and Burlington, now the C. B. & Q. Railroad, was completed, [30-year-old Sylvester Samuel Edwards] removed from the farm to Edwards Station, where he opened a grocery and provision store, and was appointed station agent by the railroad company; [he] was also appointed the first postmaster in the place. [Sylvester was George's older brother].

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 7, 1862, at the age of 20, George volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Sergeant in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 8 inches tall.

A month later, on September 2, 1862, George's older (35-year-old) brother Sylvester Samuel Edwards also enlisted in Company K and was elected Second Lieutenant. A month later, he was promoted to First Lieutenant. Sylvester was captured during the Battle of Mansfield on April 8, 1864 and, along with over 1,900 other Union soldiers (143 from his 77th Illinois regiment, with 7 of those from Company K), would spend more than 13 months in a rebel stockade at Camp Ford in Tyler, Texas, before being released on



George's older brother Sylvester S. Edwards. Posted on *Find a Grave* by Larry Parker.

May 17, 1865.

George's time in the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry was much less notable. There was no record of any injury or capture. Either because of his actions or by choice, when he mustered out of the regiment in July of 1865, his rank had been reduced from Sergeant to Private. He mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865.

After the war, George married Mary Elizabeth Hughes in Peoria County, Illinois on October 25, 1866, one day before his 25th birthday. Mary was 23 years old and had been born in Peoria County.

On August 7, 1867, George and Mary welcomed their first child, Mary Alice. Six more children would follow in the years ahead. Sylvester Pleasant (b. 1869), Justin (b. 1873), and Ellen (Elanor) Jane (b. 1874) were born in Peoria County. Sadly, Justin died in infancy.

In 1875, the couple purchased land and moved to Augusta Township, Hancock County, Illinois, 30 miles inland from the Mississippi River. Three more children were born — Albert Wilson (b. 1877), John Clarence (b. 1880), and Frank Russel (b. 1882). Sadly, Elanor Jane died at 31 and John Clarence died at 38.

In 1904, George and Mary moved to Carthage, Illinois, the county seat of Hancock County, "to live the more quiet life." It is here that George died on June 4, 1921, at the age of 79. Mary died 7½ years later, in early 1929.

George's obituary described him as follows:

Mr. Edwards had a vivid personality. He lived intensely, having positive convictions and enthusiastic interest in current events. His daily paper was important and after he had read it he was ready to discuss the world's news with anyone. He was a Christian gentleman and was highly respected by acquaintances and beloved by his family.

Mr. Edwards had many friends [as well as] ten grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Hancock [County has lost] a good citizen, a kind husband, a loving father, and a good neighbor.

George Edwards is buried in Moss Ridge Cemetery in Carthage, Illinois.

Ancestral Connections: None

Same Surname: George Edwards and his older brother Sylvester were both soldiers in Co. K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. There was a Ulysses Edwards in Company A, but he was probably not related to George. Ulysses' home was listed as Kickapoo Township, Peoria County, Illinois, mustered in as a Private on August 12, 1862, and died at Memphis on September 3, 1863.

Related Surnames: Scott, Bollar, Thornton, Kisner, Hughes, Collins, Hess, Hancock, Harrison, Goessling, Schnebly, Shimp, Wilkinson

Sources: Genealogical research conducted by **Roland Benjamin**. *Ancestry.com* accounts **ArIDickson**, **JMair7900**, **jfarish102**

In case you missed it: Although George Edwards and his older brother Sylvester fought for the Union Army during the Civil War, their father (Thomas Justin Edwards) had once owned property in western Virginia (now West Virginia) that included the ownership of at least three slaves. The family moved west when George's older brother Sylvester was 8 years old, freeing any of their remaining slaves in the process. It is therefore possible that Sylvester may have remembered the presence of slaves in his early childhood. George would have had no such memory, since he wasn't born until 1841, six years after his family's move to Illinois.

LAFOLLETTE**John M. LaFollette**

(1844-1913)

Private, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
9HQ4-H37

John M. LaFollette was born in February of 1844 in Peoria County, Illinois to Adam LaFollette (b. 1813) and Elizabeth Jackson (b. 1815). John and his older brother Jacob were both soldiers in Co. K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

John was probably the fourth child born into a large family. See [The Early LaFollettes in America](#) for more information about the LaFollette family's origins in France and America. John LaFollette had older twin siblings Jacob and Mahala, as well as an older sister named Louisa Margaret (or Margaret Louisa), who was born in 1842. After John's birth in early 1844, Elizabeth gave birth to two additional boys and one girl. Sadly, John's mother Elizabeth probably died sometime in late 1852 or early 1853 (when John was about 9), and his father remarried in October of 1853. More children followed before his second wife, Martha Johnson, also died in June of 1866.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 9, 1862, at the age of 18, John volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he was a very tall man for his day, standing 6 feet 5 inches tall, which was an inch taller than President Abraham Lincoln. Unlike his older brother Jacob, John would have a rather unremarkable experience as a volunteer infantryman, mustering out of service on July 10, 1865.

Eight months after they returned home from war, the two LaFollette brothers would marry within two weeks of each other. On April 3, 1866, John married Prudence Metcalf (b. 1838) in LaRue County, in central Kentucky. Prudence had been born in neighboring Nelson County. After they married, John and Prudence moved back to Rosefield Township of Peoria County, Illinois, where they lived until the mid-1870s.

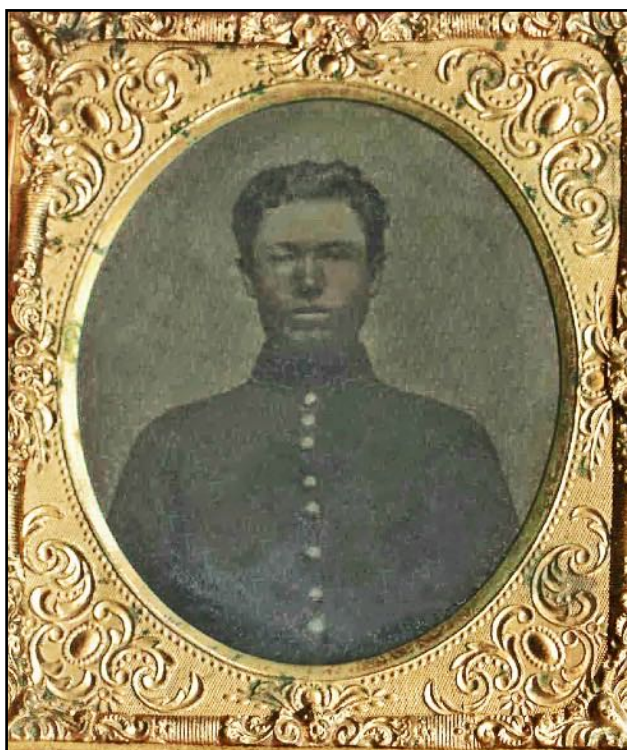
Sometime between the 1870 and 1880 Censuses, John and Prudence moved to LaRue County, Kentucky, which is best known as the birthplace of President Abraham Lincoln. These same censuses indicate that they had six children — three daughters and three sons. Their names were Lidia A. (b. 1867), Robert Frank (b. 1870), George T. (b. 1871), Mary E. (b. 1873), Trecy Ellen (b. 1875), and John "Jack" (b. 1880).

Census records indicate that John and Prudence divorced sometime in the early 1890s and John remarried in 1894. His new wife was named Laura. The 1900 Census indicated that John and Laura were living in the small town of Athertonville at

that time with their son John, as well as father John's older brother James, and Laura's 82-year-old mother named Nancy.

John LaFollette died on October 4, 1913 in LaRue County, Kentucky. It is not clear where he was laid to rest.

Ancestral Connections: John and his older brother Jacob were nephews of Mahala LaFollette, who married Daniel Slane, a man who had briefly been part of the 77th Illinois before the authorities realized that, at 58, he was too old to serve in the army. Years later, on Thursday, February 18, 1892, Daniel Slane's grandson (John Franklin Doubet) married Samuel Kirkman's daughter (Alice Ann Kirkman), thereby connecting Samuel Kirkman to the LaFollette brothers. As a result, Daniel Slane is the author's 3rd great grandfather and the LaFollette brothers are the author's first cousins, 4 times removed.



An ambrotype of John LaFollette, posted onto *Ancestry.com* by user **Glen Smith**.

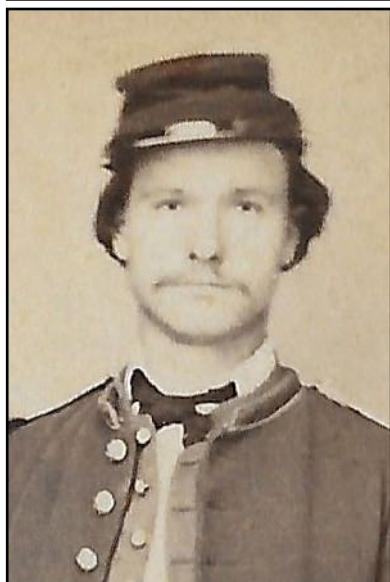
A Fascinating Claim: *Ancestry.com* users **DoubetDW78** and **Cecil Hoak** have each put forth a fascinating, but unproven, ancestral connection between John and Jacob's mother (Elizabeth Jackson) and Confederate General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson. The former suggests that they were 3rd or 4th cousins, while the latter even suggests that Elizabeth was Stonewall's niece. But as astronomer Carl Sagan once said, "extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence," and no such proof has yet been found.

Same Surname: John and his older brother Jacob were both soldiers in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. See [The Wisconsin LaFollettes](#) for more information about that family's history.

Related Surnames: Jackson, Roush, Loop, Kale, Pugh, Metcalf, Spencer, Howell, Fogle, Phelps, Sidebottom, Slane, Coppersmith, Cox, Gillham

Sources: Genealogical research conducted by **Roland Benjamin**. *Ancestry.com* accounts **DoubetDW78**, **ClydeHendricks**, **Curly1952**, **Glen Smith**

COULSON



Imle Eno Coulson

(1837-1923)

Corporal, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:

LZTY-86M



Christened with a name that was likely misspelled and misheard throughout his life, Imle Eno Coulson was born on July 18, 1837 in Peoria County, Illinois to William Coulson (b. 1801) and Hephzibah Eno (b. 1804).

Father William had been born about 36 years before in Penzance, the most westerly major town in the southwestern county of Cornwall, England. Sometime between his birth and age 21, he emigrated to America and, in 1822, married a New York woman whose first name (Hephzibah) was borrowed from the Books of Kings in the Bible. The first child born to William and “Hepsey” was Hannah, in 1824, followed by two more daughters while living in New York.

Sometime between the 1830 Census and the birth of their fourth daughter Eleanor in 1832, the family moved to central Illinois. Four additional sons (William, John, Imle, and Henry) were born in Peoria County, as was another daughter, Emeline.

Imle’s father William died in 1844, at the age of 43, in Marshall County, Illinois. Imle was about 6 years old at the time. His wife Hepsey would re-marry in February of 1847, this time to a man named John C. King, who became Imle’s stepfather.

The next major event in Imle’s life showed up in a special Iowa census in 1856, which lists his name and residence in Plattville Township in far western Mills County, Iowa. It is here that, on his 21st birthday — July 18, 1858 — Imle married Harriet True Tozier.

In November of 1859, Imle and Harriet welcomed their first child, Charles. Sometime between Charles’ birth and the following August, the Coulson family would move again, just across the Missouri River, to Cass County in the Nebraska Territory. The Census of 1860 indicated their change of address, but also misspelled Imle’s name as “Emily.”

In September of 1861, Imle and Harriet welcomed their second child, Eva.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 9, 1862, at the age of 25, Imle volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Corporal in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 5 inches tall. These same records incorrectly give his first name as “Emlee,” while William Bentley’s 1883 regimental history misspells his first name as “Enlee.” Either because of his actions or by choice, when Imle mustered out of the regiment on July 10, 1865, his rank had been reduced from Corporal to Private.

Three months after Imle enlisted in the Union army, records show that Imle's wife Harriet gave birth to their second child, Hepsibeth, but she would die a little more than three months later.

After the war, Harriet gave birth to four more boys and two more girls. Sadly, they would all die young, at ages 1, 1, 10, 4, 1, and 6. Only their first two children — Charles and Eva — would live into the twentieth century.

The 1870 Census showed their family of four living in Kane Township of Pottawattamie County, Iowa, just on the other side of the Missouri River from the (now state) of Nebraska.

In 1877, records showed that they had moved far to the west, to Thurston County of Washington Territory, whose county seat was Olympia (which would later become the state capital). The 1880 Census would show Imle, Harriet, children Charles, Eva, Nora, Hollie, and Harriet's 67-year-old mother, Mary True Sayles.

On October 2, 1889, Imle Coulson was appointed as U.S. postmaster in Shoshone County, Idaho Territory. [Idaho would become the 43rd state on July 3, 1890]. In June of 1890, the 1890 Census would only list Imle and Harriet. Ten years later, the 1900 Census showed them to be living in Spokane County, Washington.

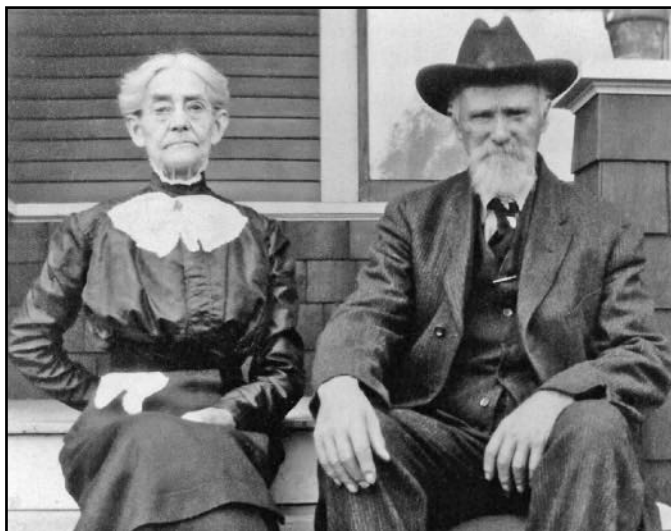
Harriet died on February 3, 1918, at the age of 80. Imle outlived his wife by five years, dying on July 7, 1923, 11 days short of his 86th birthday. Imle is buried in Greenwood Memorial Terrace in Spokane County, Washington. Harriet is buried in Spring Creek Cemetery just north of Reardan, Washington, which is about 25 miles to the west of Imle's grave.

Ancestral Connections: Imle Coulson is the husband of Harriet Tozier, who is the author's 6th cousin, 4 times removed. Also, Imle Coulson is buried in the same cemetery as fellow soldier John Pritchard — Greenwood Memorial Terrace in Spokane County, Washington. Given this cemetery's great distance from central Illinois, each man's decision to move to this part of the country may not have been purely coincidental.

Same Surname: Imle and his younger brother Henry Seth Coulson (1841-1927) were both soldiers in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

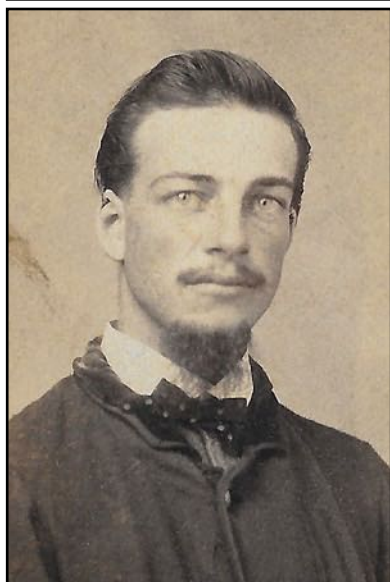
Related Surnames: Eno, Tozier, Runnells, Taylor, Downs, Clark, Davis, Barstow, Frizzell, Sherwood, Smith

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **dwhittaker3**, **kdunn17**, and **Zerbinetta67**; and *FamilySearch* ID **LZTY-86M**.



Imle and Harriet True Coulson in their elder years.
Posted on *Ancestry.com* by user **Michele Larsen**.

AVERY



James William Avery

(1841-1873)

Private (to Corporal), Company C, 77th Illinois
Cazenovia Township, Woodford County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:

L2BB-9VD



James William Avery (often listed as J. William) was born in 1841 in Otsego County, New York, whose county seat is Cooperstown. The Avery family originally emigrated to America from Berkshire County in southeast England, but that had occurred five generations earlier, when Ensign Robert Avery (1649-1722) settled in Norfolk County, Massachusetts.

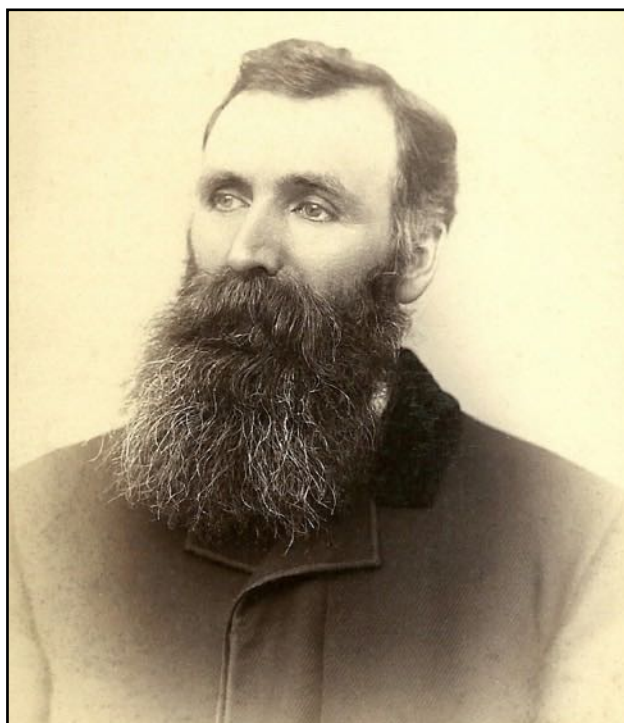
James' parents, John William Avery (b. 1813) and Sophia Wood Dillingham (b. 1821), had both grown up in Otsego County. James was the oldest of 14 children, 9 boys and 5 girls. Ten of these children would live to adulthood.

Sometime in the latter half of 1861, the Avery family moved from Otsego County, New York to Woodford County, Illinois, across the Illinois River from Peoria.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 13, 1862, at the age of 20, J. William volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company C of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 5½ inches tall. The muster records also record his residence as Cazenovia Township in Woodford County, Illinois. About 68% of Company C was composed of men who also lived in Woodford County. Records indicate that James was promoted from Private to Corporal sometime during the war, because that was the rank he held when he mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865.

J. William was one of only 5 men in Samuel Kirman's CdV collection who were not in Company K. One likely reason that Samuel Kirkman may have exchanged CdVs with James was that they both worked for a time in the quartermaster's department, providing troops with quarters, clothing, and equipment.

During the war, James gained an additional brother (Sherman). After the war, he would gain an additional sister (Lena) and an additional brother (Leonard). Sadly, he



James William Avery, presumably after the war.
Posted on *Ancestry.com* by user **rkbailey195160**.

would lose his father in 1871, and perhaps after that, at the age of 30, James moved to Sedgwick County, Kansas, in or near Wichita.

Sadly, James William Avery died on January 30, 1873 at the age of 31. It is unknown how he died, but probate records indicate that his mother Sophia handled the disbursement of his property and assets. Sophia would outlive her son by 19 years, dying in 1892. James is buried in Highland Cemetery in Wichita, Kansas.

Ancestral Connections: James William Avery is the author's 8th cousin, twice removed.

Same Surname: There was a Robert H. Avery in Company A, but he was probably not related to James. Robert's home was listed as Galesburg, Illinois.

Related Surnames: Dillingham, Butterfield, Runyan, Griffith, Eldridge, Gibson, Lamb, Berry, Fuller, Mungle, Dorsey, Lowry, Carringer, Lanham

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **rkbailey195160**, **raleighgardener**, and **btbradshaw**

RENCH



Lyman Theodore Rench

(1840-1915)

Private, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
K4PD-9CT

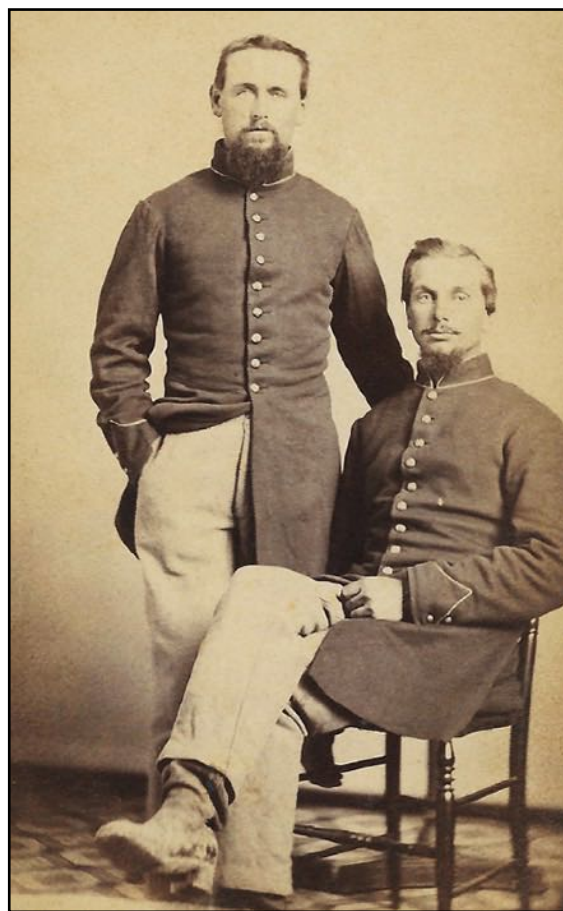
Note: Lyman and Louis Rench, photographed together for their studio CdV, were first cousins living in different townships near Peoria, Illinois. Based on the positions of their signatures on Kirkman's CdV, I've taken an educated guess on which man is which.

The Rench family originated in the Canton of Bern, a member state of the Swiss Confederation, a precursor of the modern state of Switzerland. Lyman and Louis' great-grandfather was John Rench (b. 1726), who was born in Switzerland and emigrated to the United States in 1736. Settling first in Frederick County, Maryland, John was listed in the muster rolls of Maryland men who served in the Revolutionary War. John's third child was Jacob Rench (b. 1761), who would become the shared grandfather of cousins Lyman and Louis.

Lyman Theodore Rench was born sometime in 1840 to Samuel Henry (or Heinrich) Rench (b. 1803) and Elizabeth Susan Van Swearingen (b. 1807) in Washington County, Maryland. He was their eighth child and seventh son. Samuel and Elizabeth would ultimately have ten children, but only six would live to adulthood. Lyman was baptized on October 24, 1841 in Hagerstown, Maryland.

Lyman's father, Samuel, died in 1853 at the age of 50. His widow Elizabeth stayed in the Maryland and D.C. area until sometime in the 1870s, when she moved to Douglas County in northeastern Kansas. As Lyman grew to adulthood in the late 1850s and early 1860s, he moved west to Rosefield Township of Peoria County, Illinois.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 22, 1862 — exactly one week after his cousin Louis enlisted — 22-year-old Lyman volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster



First cousins Louis and Lyman Rench posed together for their New Orleans CdV photograph.

records indicate that he stood 5 feet 11 inches tall. He mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865.

After the war, Lyman would move back to Washington County, Maryland and on December 9, 1867, he married Susan Agnes Boyd (b. 1847). Together, they had two daughters, Elizabeth (b. 1870) and Sarah (b. 1872). Sometime between Sarah's birth and the 1880 Census, the family moved west again, this time to Douglas County, Kansas, presumably to be with his widowed mother, Elizabeth. The Kansas state census showed him to be in Lawrence, Kansas in 1895 and Kanwaka Township (just west of Lawrence) in 1905. The national census indicated the same in 1910.

Sometime between 1910 and 1913, Lyman moved to San Diego, California, perhaps to be with his older brother Stull Isaac Rench, who died in May of 1913. Lyman remained in San Diego until his own death on July 13, 1915, at the age of 75. Lyman is buried in a Grand Army of the Republic section of Mount Hope Cemetery in San Diego, California. His wife, Susan, outlived him by eleven years, dying on December 19, 1926.

A sad coincidence: First cousins Lyman and Louis both lost their fathers at a young age. Louis' father (John) died in 1846 at the age of 37, when Louis was 10. Lyman's father (Samuel) died in 1853 at the age of 50, when Lyman was about 13.

Photo Note: The Louis/Lyman Rench CdV was the only one in the collection that was produced by the W. W. Washburn gallery at 113 Canal Street in New Orleans.

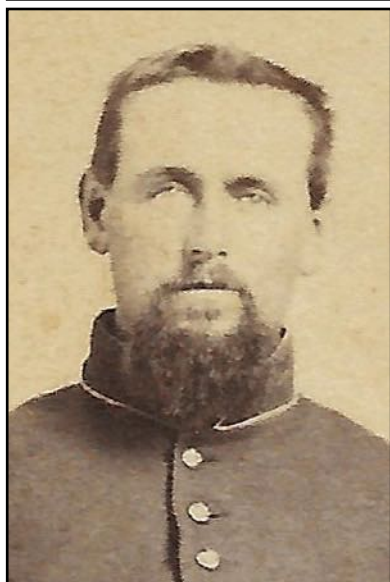
Ancestral Connections: Lyman (of Company K) and Louis (of Company E) were first cousins. Also, both Lyman and Louis were related to the wife of Charles Ballance (the "prominent citizen of Peoria" who first organized the regiment). Her name was Julia Margaret Schnebly, and Julia's great-uncle was Jacob Rench (1761-1811), who was the shared grandfather of both Louis and Lyman. As a result Lyman and Louis were each a second cousin to Julia Ballance.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Swearingen, Bond, Young, Boyd, Updegraff, Nicholas, Northcraft, Foote

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **jrentch** and **1_msococonnor**

RENCH



Louis Young Rench

(1835-1917)

Wagoner, Company E, 77th Illinois
Medina Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
LJYZ-7ZZ

Note: Louis and Lyman Rench, photographed together for their studio CdV, were first cousins living in different townships near Peoria, Illinois. Based on the positions of their signatures on Kirkman's CdV, I've taken an educated guess on which man is which.

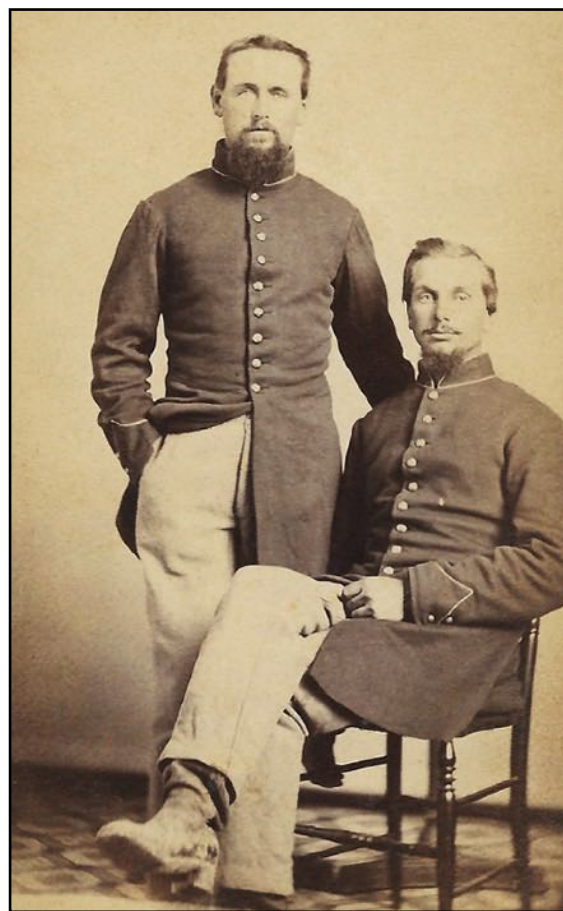
The Rench family originated in the Canton of Bern, a member state of the Swiss Confederation, a precursor of the modern state of Switzerland. Lyman and Louis' great-grandfather was John Rench (b. 1726), who was born in Switzerland and emigrated to the United States in 1736. Settling first in Frederick County, Maryland, John was listed in the muster rolls of Maryland men who served in the Revolutionary War. John's third child was Jacob Rench (b. 1761), who would become the shared grandfather of cousins Lyman and Louis.

Louis Young Rench was born on October 28, 1835 to John Andrew Rench (b. 1809) and Mary Ann Malott (b. 1814) in Washington County, Maryland. He was their second child and second son. John and Mary Ann would ultimately have seven children, but only four would live to adulthood.

Louis' father, John, died in 1846 at the age of 37, when Louis was 10. John's widow, Mary Ann, remarried on October 29, 1852 in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Her new husband was Daniel Rench Miller, who was Mary Ann's second cousin. They resided in the Maryland and D.C. area until sometime in the late 1850s, when they moved to French Lick in Orange County, Indiana.

By the 1860 Census in June, 24-year-old Louis was working as a laborer on a farm belonging to 45-year-old John C. Schnebly in Richwoods Township of Peoria County, Illinois. The John Schnebly family consisted of husband, wife, their seven children, and three laborers (which included Louis).

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to



First cousins Louis and Lyman Rench posed together for their New Orleans CdV photograph.

suppress the rebellion. On August 15, 1862 — exactly one week before his cousin Lyman enlisted — 26-year-old Louis volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Wagoner in Company E of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 6 inches tall. The role of a wagoner during the Civil War was to transport the supplies needed by the army. He was responsible for driving the wagon and maintaining it, feeding and caring for the mule team that pulled it, ensuring that it was loaded properly, and seeing that its cargo reached its destination safely. The cargo could be anything that an army of that time required — food, medical supplies, weapons, ammunition, clothing, shelter tents, tools, soldier's knacksacks, officer's luggage, etc. Louis mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865.

Between the war's end and the 1870 Census, Louis moved to nearby Medina Township in Peoria County, Illinois, where he worked as a farmer. He was still single, but lived with his mother, his younger brother Peter, his half-sister Elizabeth, and a farm laborer named Thomas Mooney.

On February 25, 1872, at the age of 36, Louis married 19-year-old Mary Elizabeth Loren in Scotland County in far northeastern Missouri. Mary was born and grew up in Morgan County, which lies in central Missouri. They would have five children, with all but one living to adulthood. One of their daughters — Margaret Maude — would live to the age of 97, dying in December of 1974.

The Rench family moved to the adjacent county of Clark sometime in the mid-1870s. By the time of the 1900 Census, when Louis was 64 and Mary was 47, they had moved across the state to Barton County, Missouri. The 1910 Census showed them to be in neighboring Cedar County with their youngest daughter, Louana "Lutie."

Louis Rench died on February 15, 1917 in Jerico Springs, Cedar County, Missouri, at the age of 81. He was buried in Anna Edna Cemetery in Jerico Springs. His wife Mary survived her husband by 29 years, dying on July 7, 1946 at the age of 93. She too was buried in Anna Edna Cemetery.

A sad coincidence: First cousins Lyman and Louis both lost their fathers at a young age. Louis' father (John) died in 1846 at the age of 37, when Louis was 10. Lyman's father (Samuel) died in 1853 at the age of 50, when Lyman was about 13.

Photo Note: The Louis/Lyman Rench CdV was the only one in the collection that was produced by the W. W. Washburn gallery at 113 Canal Street in New Orleans.

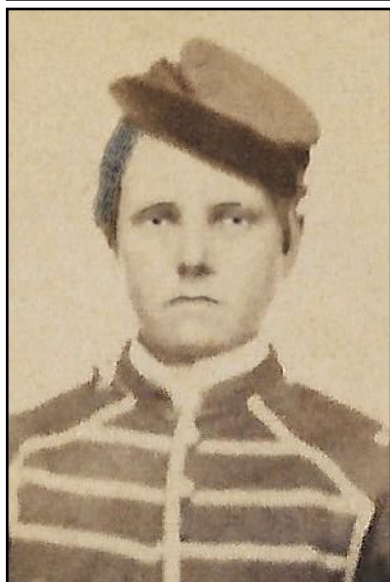
Ancestral Connections: Louis (of Company E) and Lyman (of Company K) were first cousins. Also, both Louis and Lyman were related to the wife of Charles Ballance (the "prominent citizen of Peoria" who first organized the regiment). Her name was Julia Margaret Schnebly, and Julia's great-uncle was Jacob Rench (1761-1811), who was the shared grandfather of both Louis and Lyman. As a result Lyman and Louis were each a second cousin to Julia Ballance.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Malott, Nowell, Young, Loren, Rogers, Brown, Mohler, Brasher, Schnebly, Sphoone

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **jrentch** and **1_msoconnor**

SNYDER



Jacob H. Snyder

(1842-1928)

Musician, Company I, 77th Illinois
Elmwood Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
2HKB-PHZ

Jacob H. (Henry or Hever) Snyder was born on September 24, 1842 in Wayne Township of Butler County in southwestern Ohio to John W. Snyder (b. 1815) and Maria B. Hursh (b. 1816). John was a farmer. Not much was uncovered about Jacob's paternal lineage, but his mother's family (Hursh) emigrated to America from the Palatinate region of (southwestern) Germany.

Jacob was the second child (and first boy) of a total of nine children born to John and Maria Snyder. At least five of their children grew to adulthood. Sometime between mid-1856 and the 1860 Census in June, the Snyder family moved from Butler County, Ohio to Brimfield Township of Peoria County, Illinois. The 1860 Census lists John, Maria, and five children. John is listed as a farmer owning real estate valued at \$10,200 and personal property valued at \$1,530.

On March 11, 1861, Maria gave birth to a daughter named Florence, but then she died 8 days later. Florence, however, was healthy, and lived to the age of 95.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 11, 1862, at the age of 19, Jacob volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Musician in Company I of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 6½ inches tall. The muster records also record his residence as Elmwood Township in Peoria County, Illinois. About 69% of Company I was composed of men who also lived in Peoria County, with Knox County to the west filling the remaining 20%.

Two weeks after Jacob's muster in, his 10-year-old sister, Mary Alice, died.

During the Civil War, according to William Bentley, who wrote the regimental history of the 77th Illinois 18 years after the war, Jacob "kept a daily record from first to last, noting all the occurrences worth noting, with great care and accuracy." Bentley continued: "To him I am indebted for the use of his voluminous and interesting journals."

There are a number of indications that Jacob was what we would today refer to as a "people person." Seventeen days after Jacob mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865, the brothers in arms of the 77th Illinois



This photograph of Jacob Snyder comes from a CdV found in the collection of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, Springfield, Illinois.

gathered together one final time in Peoria for what William Bentley described as “a sort of farewell jollification.” Bentley mentioned Jacob at that farewell event: “Then speeches were in demand. Sergeant David L. Murdock, of Company H, and Jacob H. Snyder, Musician of Company I, were loudly called for, and responded in ‘thoughts that breathe and words that burn.’ ”

After the war, Jacob married Lucinda Cornelia Lee (b. 1842 in Ohio) on September 13, 1866 in Franklin County, Ohio (in or near Columbus). The 1870 Census indicates that Jacob and Lucinda lived in Westfield Township of Clark County in east central Illinois. Their first two children — Henry (b. 1868) and Laura (b. 1870) — lived with them. For the first time, the 1870 Census revealed Jacob’s chosen career path — clergyman — and he would remain a minister for the rest of his life. His gravestone has his name carved into its face as “Rev. Jacob H.”

By the time of the 1880 Census in June, the family had moved to La Prairie Township in Adams County, which is the westernmost county of Illinois. By then, Jacob and Lucinda had welcomed two additional children — Hattie (b. 1873) and Elmer (b. 1879).

Sometime in the early 1890s, the couple moved again, this time to Lecompton Township of Douglas County, in northeastern Kansas. They would remain here for the remainder of their lives. Lucinda died on December 20, 1920, at the age of 78. Jacob would outlive his wife by over seven years, dying on February 29, 1928 at the age of 85. They are both buried in Maple Grove Cemetery, which is about midway between Lawrence and Topeka, Kansas.

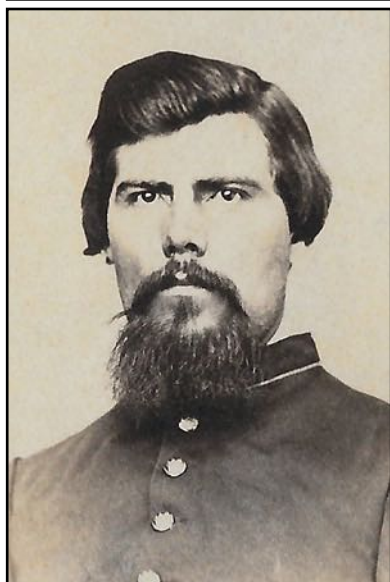
Ancestral Connections: Jacob Snyder was the husband of Lucinda Lee, who is the author’s 9th cousin, once removed.

Same Surname: There was a Cyrus K. Snyder in Company H, who mustered in on August 11, 1862 and was discharged for disability on June 6, 1864. However, there is no evidence that he is related to Jacob Snyder.

Related Surnames: Hursh, Allewelt, Hougendobler, Straub, Lee, Parmelee, Heisel, Ewing, Rivers, Fogler, Reinoehl

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **ArnoldsClan**, **Van_Sherry**, **MargaretRowe2010**, and **RuthCombsEdvalson**

BOWMAN



William George Boman

(1838-1899)

Private, Company B, 77th Illinois
Magnolia Township, Putnam County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
LYYK-VJT

Note: This soldier was a challenge to research. The first problem was that ancestral records alternate between the “Boman” and “Bowman” spelling. There is evidence to support both spellings, which suggests that the spelling may have been interchangeable throughout his life. William Bentley’s regimental history lists William’s name twice, and his last name is spelled differently each time. The signature on the obverse side of the author’s CdV reads “Wm G Boman.” Yet, his cemetery gravestone clearly reads “W.G. Bowman.” Perhaps, over time, the family preference may have evolved to the Bowman spelling, perhaps because its pronunciation is clearer. In the end, I settled on “Boman,” because that seems to be the man’s own preference, at least during the Civil War years.

Further complicating the research is the fact that there are three William Bomans (or Bowmans) in the same extended family. The first and second were father (b. 1781 in Virginia) and son (b. 1820 in Ohio). The father had an older son named Alexander, who also named his son William (b. 1838). It is this final William whose age (24 in 1862) matches the Union Army’s muster records for the 77th Illinois.

William George Boman was born on April 18, 1838 in Ohio to Alexander Boman (b. 1810) and Rachel Jane Baxter (b. 1819). William, who was likely named for his uncle and/or his grandfather, was the second of (probably) six children born to Alexander and Rachel. At least four of their six children would live to adulthood.

Sometime between William’s birth in April of 1838 and his sister Susannah’s birth in July of 1848, the Boman family moved west, to Putnam County, Illinois, north of Peoria. The 1850 Census showed Alexander, Rachel, and three children.

Ten years later, 1860 Census records showed 22-year-old William to be living on his own as a farmer in Osage Township of LaSalle County, southeast of Putnam County.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 22, 1862, at the age of 24, William volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company B of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 6 feet 2½ inches tall. The muster records also record his residence as Magnolia Township in Putnam County, Illinois. About 89% of Company B was composed of men who also lived in Putnam County. He mustered out of the regiment on July 10, 1865.

After the war, William married Orpha L. Moore (b. 1843). In the years that followed, William and Orpha would have 7 daughters and 1 son. The 1880 Census would list them and all their eight children, his occupation as a farmer, and their

home in Pontiac Township of Livingston County, which is just to the south of LaSalle County.

Orpha died on August 16, 1886, at the age of 43. William would outlive his wife by over 12 years, dying on June 1, 1899. He is buried in the South Side Cemetery in Pontiac, Illinois.

Ancestral Connections: None

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Baxter, Slaughter, Dumbauld, Hooper, Moore, Denning, Rodgers, Tracy, Palmer, Garrett, Murphy, Hodgson, Gandolfo, Alback, Ward, Massie, Ballard, Peterson

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **Debbie Shipley**, **shelly_donald**, **Luanne Bean**, **Candace McCarthy King**, **SDUNAVAN** and *FamilySearch* ID **LYYK-VJT**.

SOMERS**Edwin Riley Somers**

(1845-1944)

Private, Company C, 130th Illinois

Private, Company K, 77th Illinois

City of Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
KJZ2-9Y3

Edwin Riley Somers was born on February 24, 1845 in Peoria, Illinois to William Riley Somers (b. 1818) and Charlotte Morris (b. 1823). There is some evidence to suggest that Charlotte was born to 49-year-old James Morris (b. 1774), who was the grandfather of Edwin's regimental brothers Richard and Henry Morris. This would have made Charlotte an aunt to both Henry and Richard Morris. If true, it also meant that Henry and Richard Morris were first cousins of Edwin.

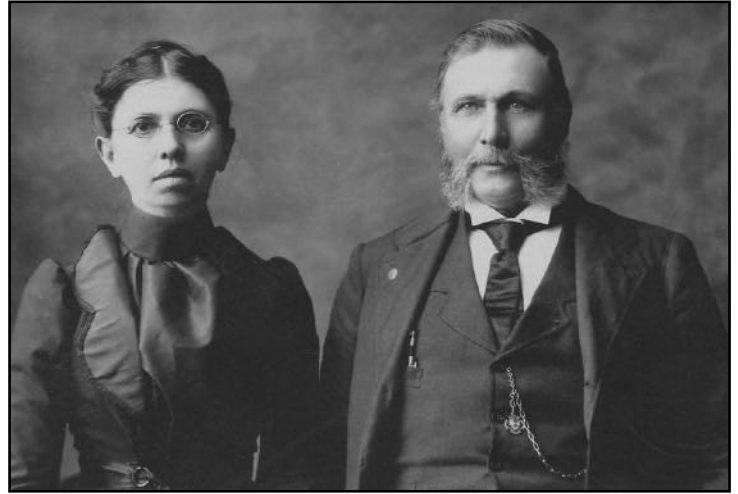
Sadly, Edwin's mother died on October 25, 1846 at the age of 23. Edwin was only 20 months old at the time, so he never knew his mother. There is no indication that Edwin's father ever re-married, so Edwin had no siblings.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. In August of 1862, Edwin was 17 when most of his future brothers in arms volunteered for service in the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Edwin was three months younger than Samuel Kirkman, so at that time, he was a full six months shy of the minimum enlistment age. In late-1863, Colonel David Grier and a few others from the 77th Illinois returned to Peoria to recruit men that would replace those men lost to injury or death. Records show that in January of 1864, Edwin Somers volunteered for service in the Union Army, first becoming a Private in Company C of the 130th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he was then 19, a farmer, and stood 5 feet 7½ inches tall. In 1864, Edwin saw much the same action in the 130th Illinois as was experienced by those men in the 77th Illinois. At the Battle of Mansfield (a.k.a. Sabine Cross Roads), much of the 130th Illinois was captured and confined at Tyler, Texas. Apparently, Edwin avoided that fate. On January 25, 1865, the 130th Illinois was consolidated with the 77th Illinois, and Edwin was transferred to Company K of the 77th Illinois. He fought beside the men of Company K for the remainder of the war, then was transferred back to the 130th Illinois when that regiment was reorganized at Mobile, Alabama on July 11, 1865. Now back with the 130th Illinois, Edwin was ordered to New Orleans and mustered out on August 15, 1865.

About ten years after the war, Edwin married Katherine Ruvenacht (b. 1850). The 1900 Census shows that they had two children spaced over eight years apart — Frank (born in December, 1877) and Florence (born in February, 1886). Also living with them at the time was Katherine's 84-year-old mother, Barbara.

Sometime between 1900 and 1912, the Somers family moved to Fort Dodge, Iowa. Their names appear in the Fort Dodge City Directory for 1912. Katherine Somers died there on October 28, 1917 at the age of 67.

An Iowa state census take eight years later (1925) indicated that Edwin had remarried a woman named Amanda, who was ten years younger than Edwin. The same records show that Amanda owned the house that they lived in, which was located in Wahkonsa Township of Webster County in central Iowa.



Edwin and Katherine in the late nineteenth century. Posted on *Find a Grave* by **DeadFred**.

Sometime between 1925 and April of 1930, Edwin moved to Los Angeles, California, living in the same house as his daughter Florence, and her husband, Elrick Williams, who had also been born in Illinois.

Edwin Somers died on July 3, 1944, about eight months short of his 100th birthday. Of all the people I have researched for this project, Edwin holds the record for longevity at 99 years, 4 months, and 9 days. Amazingly, Edwin served in the Civil War, then lived long enough to witness the Spanish-American War, World War I, and much of World War II, dying about a month after the Allies landed on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day! Edwin's body was brought back to Illinois to be buried alongside his wife at Evergreen Cemetery in El Paso, Illinois.

Ancestral Connections: There is some evidence to suggest that Charlotte Morris (b. 1823) was born to 49-year-old James Morris (b. 1774), who was the grandfather of Edwin's regimental brothers Richard and Henry Morris. This would have made Charlotte an aunt to both Henry and Richard Morris, even though she was only 9½ years older than Henry and 14 years older than Richard. If true, it also meant that Henry and Richard Morris were first cousins of Edwin.

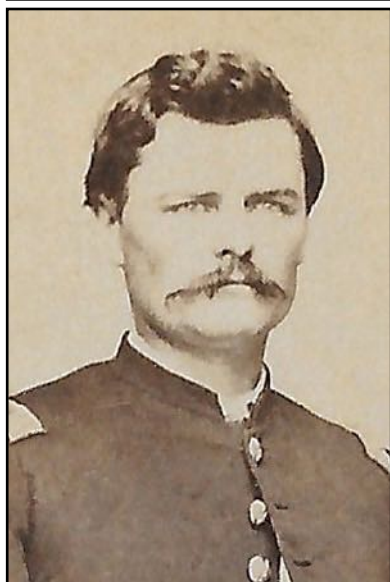
Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Morris, Manock, Ruvenacht, Engel, Williams

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **Rosa275**, **ken morris**, **Keith Herriff**, **Charles Marvin**, and *Find a Grave*

In case you missed it: Edwin Somers lived to the age of 99 years, 4 months, and 9 days. Amazingly, Edwin served in the Civil War, then lived long enough to witness the Spanish-American War, World War I, and much of World War II.

WILKIN



Jacob Wilson Wilkin

(1837-1907)

Captain, Company K, 130th Illinois

Captain, Company C, 77th Illinois

Clark County, Illinois

Jacob Wilson Wilkin was born on June 7, 1837 in Newark, Ohio to Isaac Wilkin (b. 1806) and Sarah Burner (b. 1809). Jacob was the fifth of nine children, who all lived to adulthood.

By the time of the 1850 Census, the Wilkin family had moved to Crawford County in southeastern Illinois. Ten years later, they were still there, and the 1860 Census indicated that 22-year-old Jacob was a school teacher.

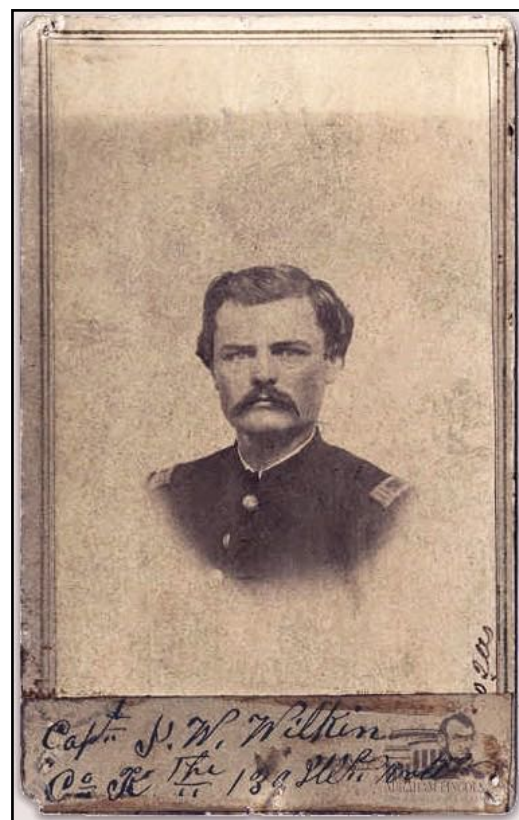
In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. Records show that 25-year-old Jacob enlisted at Camp Butler near Springfield, Illinois. He was mustered in and commissioned as an officer in Company K of the 130th Illinois Volunteer

Infantry on October 25, 1862. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 6 inches tall.

Although William Bentley's regimental history of the 77th Illinois does not specifically describe the actions of the 130th Illinois, it does reprint an official report written by Division Commander William J. Landram that thanked Capt. J. W. Wilkin, 130th Illinois and others "for their gallantry and efficiency" following the disastrous Battle of Mansfield (a.k.a. Sabine Crossroads) in April of 1864. On January 25, 1865, the 130th Illinois was consolidated with the 77th Illinois, and Jacob was commissioned an officer in Company K of the 77th Illinois. He would remain with the 77th Illinois for the remainder of the war, then he was transferred back to the 130th Illinois, where he was promoted to full Major and mustered out on August 16, 1865.

Shortly after the war, Jacob married Alice E. Constable (b. 1844) on September 21, 1865, and they soon began a family. Jacob and Alice would have five children (4 boys and 1 girl), but only three of them would live to adulthood.

On his enlistment form for the 130th Illinois,



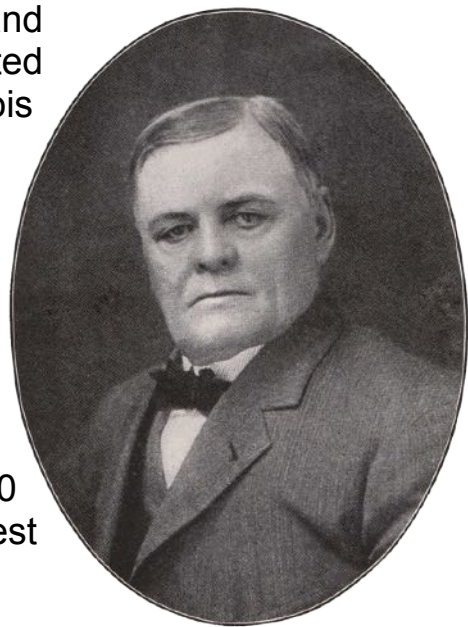
Another Jacob Wilkin CdV, when he was with the 130th Illinois V.I. Posted on *Find a Grave* by **Larry Parker**.

Jacob had given his occupation as “student at law,” and after the war he would indeed become a well respected attorney. From 1888-1907, he even served as an Illinois Supreme Court Justice.

Sadly, Alice would die on March 20, 1883 at the age of 38. A little more than two years later, on July 30, 1885, Jacob married Sarah Elizabeth Whitlock (b. 1848), who herself had been widowed more than six years earlier. Jacob was 48 at the time of his second marriage, and Sarah was 37.

Sometime around 1889, Jacob and Sarah would move to Danville, Illinois. Eleven years later, the 1900 Census showed Jacob, Sarah, and Jacob’s youngest daughter Jessie living together there.

Judge Jacob Wilkin died on April 3, 1907 at the age of 69. Sarah died nine years later, on August 18, 1916, at the age of 68. Jacob and both of his wives, Alice and Sarah, were buried in Marshall Cemetery in Clark County, Illinois.



Judge Jacob Wilkin after the war.
Posted on *Ancestry.com* by user
lynnwolfel.

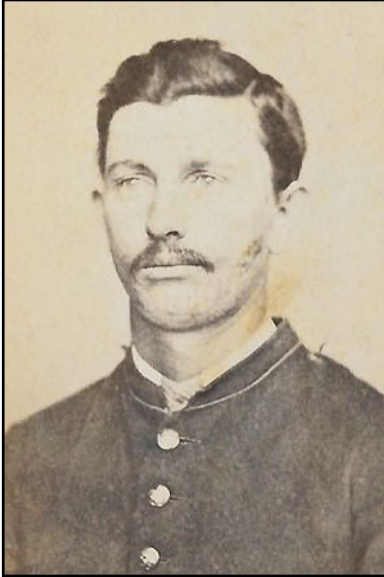
Ancestral Connections: Jacob Wilkin was the husband of Sarah Whitlock, who is the author’s 11th cousin, 3 times removed.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Burner, Swisher, Mayo, Hill, Park, Coulter, Green, Fee, Constable, Whitlock, Booth

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **Robinvs12**, **angeorge2**, **Leanne_Eisler**, and **JerryCrites71**

CAMP



John Camp

(c. 1839 - ?)

Private, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
unknown

Note: Of all the soldiers that I researched, this was the only man for whom I was unable to find any additional genealogical information.

According to Army records, on August 8, 1862, at the age of 23, John Camp of Rosefield Township of Peoria County, Illinois volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 5 inches tall, had sandy hair, gray eyes, and a light complexion. His occupation was listed as a farmer, and his nativity was listed as New York. Bentley's regimental history does not list him as a casualty in any of the 77th Illinois' battles. John mustered out of the regiment on July 10, 1865.

I was able to find a John Camp who was born in Clinton County, Ohio in 1842, lived in the adjacent township of Millbrook in 1860, moved to Nebraska sometime between 1870 and 1880, and died in August of 1889. However, the age of this man at the muster in date of August, 1862 (age 20) doesn't match the regimental records for John Camp (age 23), and this John Camp was born in Ohio rather than New York.

Ancestral Connections: Unknown

Same Surname: There was another man in the 77th Illinois with the surname of Camp — Joseph J. Camp of Company G. He was born in Clinton County, Ohio on October 10, 1827, which meant he was 34 when the 77th Illinois was organized. Joseph Camp's home was listed as Millbrook Township of Peoria County, and he was the first cousin of the Ohio-born John Camp that I mentioned above. However, there is no evidence that either of these Camps are the John Camp pictured in this CdV or related to him.

Related Surnames: Unknown

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **andilynnrn**, **mysti young**, and **Linda Lee Nelson**

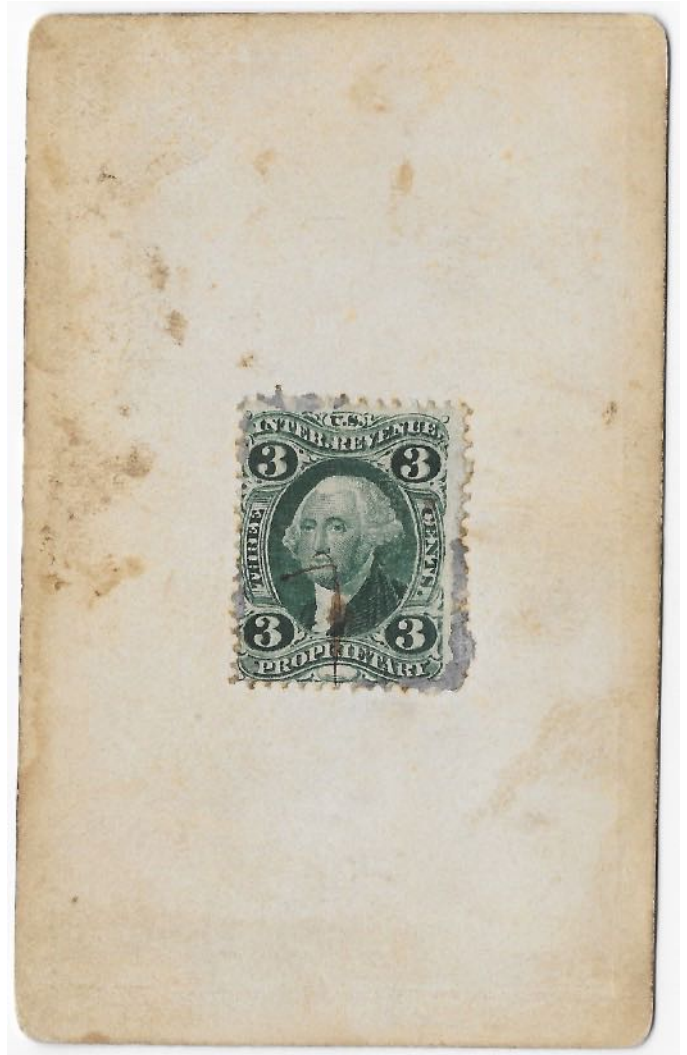
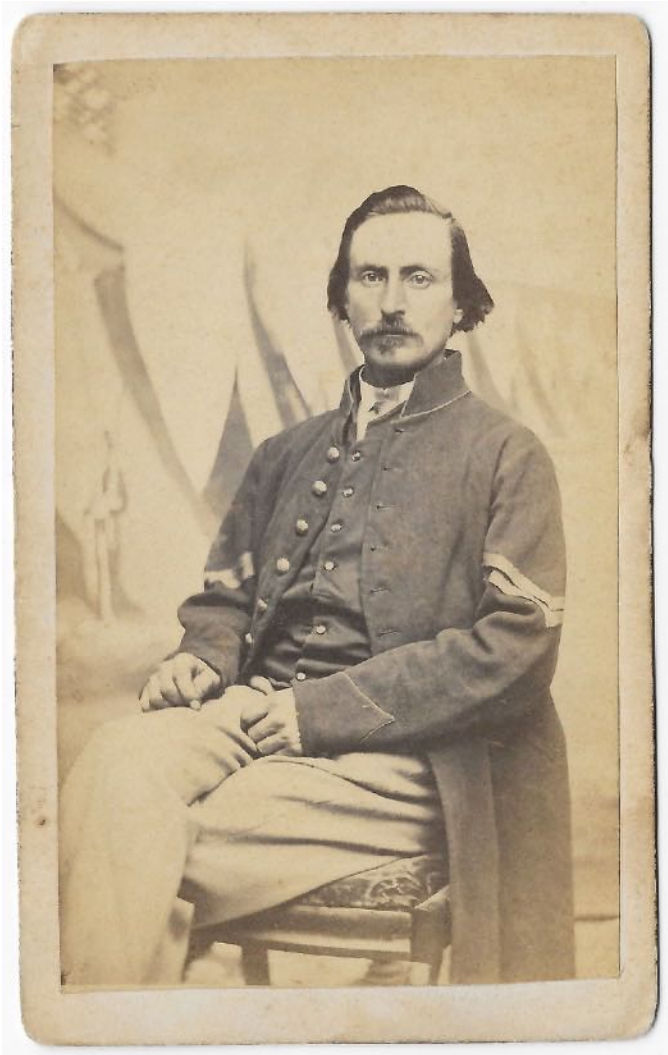
Name Unknown

Corporal?

Perhaps Company K

Probably the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry

Note: One of Samuel Kirkman's CdVs portrays an unidentified soldier. The CdV had no signature, nor any photographic studio information, but there was a U.S. revenue stamp affixed to its reverse side. The man is wearing a Union frock coat with chevrons on the right and left sleeves identifying his rank as a Corporal.



SECTION III



ADDITIONAL BIOGRAPHIES

Although the following men in the 77th Illinois V.I. were not part of Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection, their stories (either because of ancestry, historical significance, or peculiarity) are included here.

LAFOLLETTE



Jacob Jackson LaFollette

FamilySearch ID:
LHFN-394

(1840-1920)

Private, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

Note: Jacob LaFollette is not included in Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection, but he was a soldier in the 77th Illinois and an ancestor of the author. The image to the left was adapted from a Civil War era photograph posted on *Ancestry.com* by user **ClydeHendricks**.

Jacob Jackson LaFollette was born on September 17, 1840 in Rosefield Township of Peoria County, Illinois to Adam LaFollette (b. 1813) and Elizabeth Jackson (b. 1815). Jacob and his younger brother John were both soldiers in Co. K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Jacob was the oldest child in a large family. See [The Early LaFollettes in America](#) for more information about the LaFollette family's origins in France and America. Jacob had a twin sister named Mahala, who was likely named for her aunt Mahala LaFollette (Slane) (b. 1804). When Jacob was approaching age 2, another sister was born, followed by John in 1844, followed by two additional boys and one girl. His mother Elizabeth probably died sometime in late 1852 or early 1853, and his father remarried in October of 1853. More children followed before his second wife, Martha Johnson, also died in June of 1866.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 11, 1862, at the age of 21, Jacob volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 11 inches tall.

During the Civil War, Jacob was slightly injured at the Battle of Fort Hindman, or Arkansas Post, on January 11, 1863. More significantly, Jacob was captured during the Battle of Mansfield on April 8, 1864 and, along with over 1,900 other Union soldiers (143 from his 77th Illinois regiment, with 7 of those from Company K), would spend more than 13 months in a rebel stockade at Camp Ford in Tyler, Texas, before being released on May 17, 1865. Jacob would be mustered out of the army on June 17, 1865.

Eight months after they returned home from war, the two LaFollette brothers would marry within two weeks of each other. On March 21, 1866, Jacob married Margaret Amanda Slane (b. 1847), who was the niece of Daniel Fletcher Slane, a man who had also enlisted in August of 1862, briefly joined the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, but was soon discharged after the army realized that Daniel was 58 years old, which was 13 years older than the upper age limit allowed by the Union Army.

With Amanda, Jacob would father quite a few children, with seven well documented: John Wesley (b. 1868), Isaac Wesley (b. 1870), Effie M. (b. 1872),

Jacob Jackson Jr. (b. 1875), Cynthia Ellen (b. 1877), George Walter (b. 1879), and Jasper Thomas (b. 1880).

The 1880 Census indicated that Jacob, Amanda, six of their children, and a sister-in-law had moved to Elba Township, in Knox County, Illinois, which borders Peoria County.

Jacob's wife, Amanda, died on March 28, 1900. By the time of the 1900 Census, Jacob would move just to the north in Copley Township, and by the 1910 Census, he would move slightly to the west in Sparta Township. It is here that Jacob died on June 16, 1920 at the age of 79. Both Jacob and Amanda are buried in Victoria Cemetery in Knox County, Illinois.



Photo Note: The Civil War era image of Jacob LaFollette was not from the author's collection of CdVs. Instead, it was found on *Ancestry.com*, posted by *Ancestry* user **ClydeHendricks**.

Jacob LaFollette in his elder years. *Ancestry.com* image posted by user ClydeHendricks.

Ancestral Connections: Jacob and his younger brother John were nephews of Mahala LaFollette, who married Daniel Slane, a man who had briefly been part of the 77th Illinois before the authorities realized that, at 58, he was too old to serve in the army. Years later, on Thursday, February 18, 1892, Daniel Slane's grandson (John Franklin Doubet) married Samuel Kirkman's daughter (Alice Ann Kirkman), thereby connecting Samuel Kirkman to the LaFollette brothers. As a result, Daniel Slane is the author's 3rd great grandfather and the LaFollette brothers are the author's first cousins, 4 times removed.

A Fascinating Claim: *Ancestry.com* users **DoubetDW78** and **Cecil Hoak** have each put forth a fascinating, but unproven, ancestral connection between Jacob and John's mother (Elizabeth Jackson) and Confederate General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson. The former suggests that they were 3rd or 4th cousins, while the latter even suggests that Elizabeth was Stonewall's niece. But as astronomer Carl Sagan has said, "'extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence,'" and no such proof has yet been found.

Same Surname: Jacob and his younger brother John were both soldiers in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. See [The Wisconsin LaFollettes](#) for more information about that family's history.

Related Surnames: Jackson, Roush, Loop, Kale, Pugh, Slane, Race, Smith, Tucker, King, Dalton, Lorance, Lines, Harpman, Coppersmith, Metcalf, Cox, Gillham

Sources: Genealogical research conducted by **Roland Benjamin**. *Ancestry.com* accounts **DoubetDW78**, **ClydeHendricks**, **Curly1952**, **Glen Smith**

THE EARLY LAFOLLETES IN AMERICA

The author's uncle, Roland Benjamin, has conducted a considerable amount of genealogical and historical research on the Benjamin, Doubet, Slane, and LaFollette families. He provided the following information about the LaFollette family's origins in France and America:

The progenitor of the LaFollette family in America did not bear the name of LaFollette. He was Jean DuFollette, who for reasons unknown changed the "Du" (of the) to "La" (the) in his surname to form LaFollette.

Jean DuFollette was born at Chateau du Follette in Anjou Province, Normandy, France in the early 1720s. Probably due to persecution for his Protestant Huguenot faith he left Catholic France for the British Channel Isle of Jersey, and then moved on to a Huguenot settlement at Newtown, Middlesex County, New Jersey. He died there in 1759, reportedly killed by a French/Indian raiding party during the French and Indian War. His son George, born in France in 1755, led to the Illinois LaFollette branch while George's brother Joseph headed the Wisconsin branch.



Anjou Province, Normandy, France

George married Jemima Menthorne in 1769 in Morris County, New Jersey. Their first child, Isaac, was born in New Jersey in 1770. George and Jemima later moved to Hardin County, Kentucky and finally to Van Wert County, Ohio. George died in 1841.

In Capon Valley, Berkeley County, Virginia (now Hampshire County, West Virginia) in 1795, Isaac married Mary Cale (Kale), who was born there in 1776 as the daughter of Revolutionary War veteran John Cale. Among their children were Mahala, born 1804, and Adam, born 1816. Mahala became the wife of Private Daniel Fletcher Slane of the 77th Illinois Infantry. Their second daughter, Harriet Ann, married Eleanor Doubet, second great-grandfather of author Bart Benjamin. Adam was the father of Privates John and Jacob LaFollette. Isaac died in Hocking County, Ohio about 1859. Due to John Cale, all three privates had a Revolutionary War ancestor.

THE WISCONSIN LAFOLLETES



The LaFollette family name would become prominent in United States politics, particularly in the state of Wisconsin.

Robert Marion LaFollette, Sr. (1855-1925) would serve as U.S. Representative from Wisconsin (1885-1891); Governor of Wisconsin (1901-1906); U.S. Senator from Wisconsin (1906-1925); candidate for the Republican nomination for U.S. President in both 1908 and 1916; and candidate for United States President (from the Progressive Party) in 1924. In the 1924 Presidential election, Robert M. LaFollette, Sr. received 16.6% of the popular vote, a strong showing for a third party candidate, but only won the 13 electoral votes of his home state.

His son, Robert Marion LaFollette, Jr. (1895-1953) was a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin from 1925 to 1947. The younger LaFollette kept the Progressive Party alive in the U.S. Senate until his defeat by Joseph McCarthy in 1946. Many other LaFollette family members have also pursued political office.

The Wisconsin LaFollettes are related to the Illinois LaFollettes (Jacob and John), who fought for the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Their common ancestor was Jean LaFollette.

The LaFollette family originated in the French province of Anjou. Jean, George, and Joseph were each born in France but died in the United States. The two relevant LaFollette family tree branches are shown on the following page.



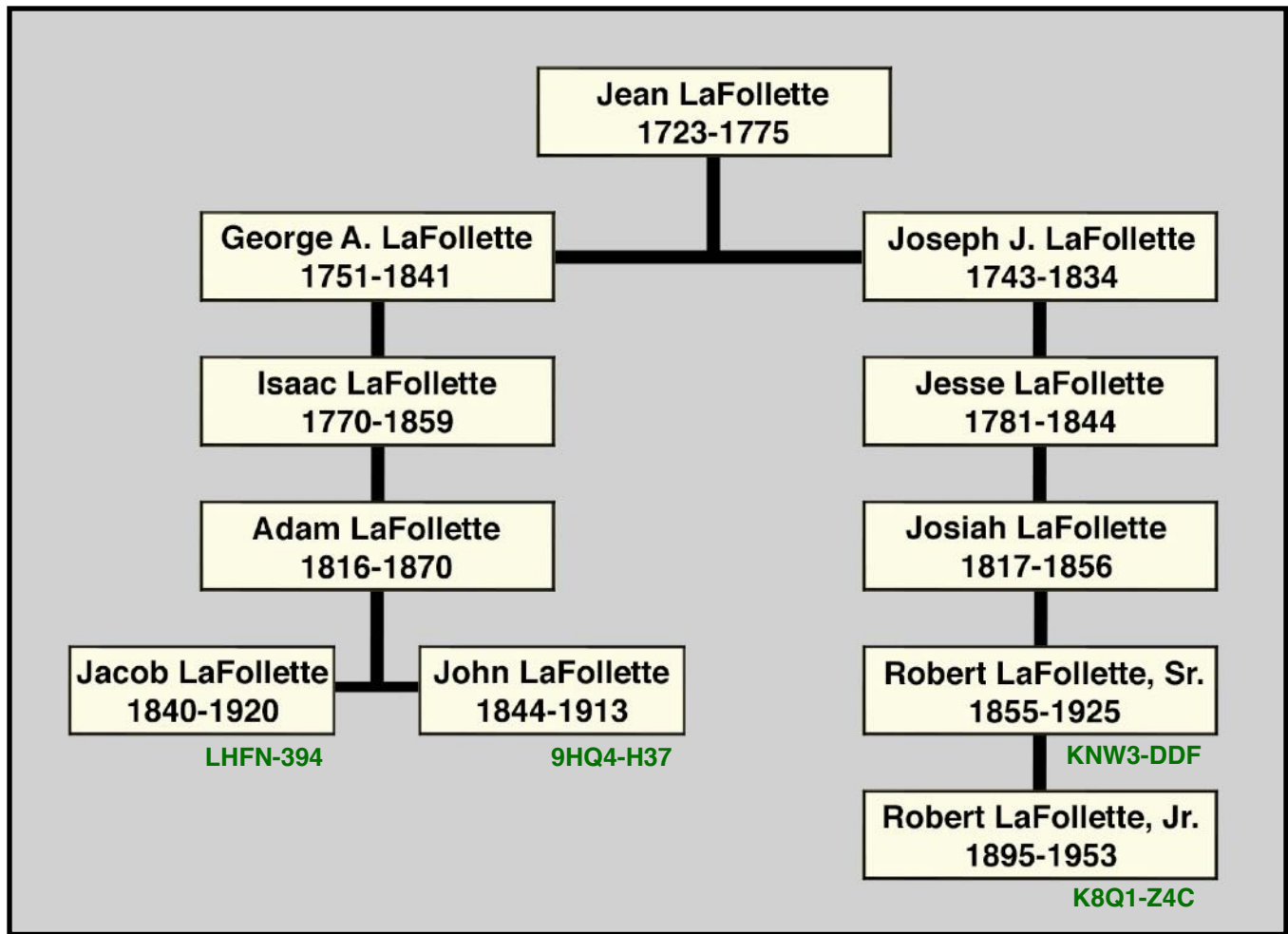
Robert LaFollette, Sr.
(1855-1925)

FamilySearch ID: KNW3-DDF



Robert LaFollette, Jr.
(1895-1953)

FamilySearch ID: K8Q1-Z4C

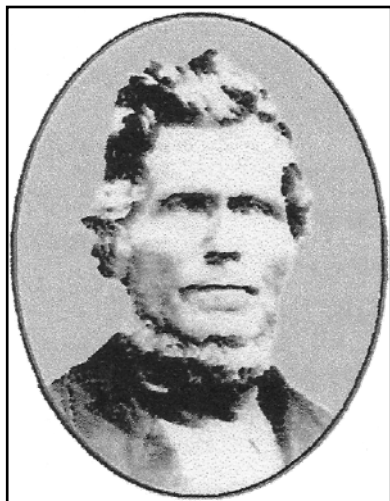


Jean LaFollette was a great-great grandfather to both Jacob and John LaFollette and Robert LaFollette, Sr. As a result, Robert LaFollette, Sr. and the LaFollette brothers (Jacob and John) were third cousins.

As mentioned previously, the LaFollette brothers are the author's first cousins, 4 times removed. Adding in the second branch of the LaFollette family tree, Robert LaFollette, Sr. was the author's third cousin, 4 times removed.

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **GRossing**, **ClydeHendricks**, **Matt Goldsberry** and several *FamilySearch* pages.

SLANE



Daniel Fletcher Slane

(1804-1884)

Musician, Company K, 77th Illinois
Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
LJKW-SY6

Note: Daniel Fletcher Slane is not included in Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection, but he was (briefly) a soldier in the 77th Illinois and an ancestor of the author.

Daniel Fletcher Slane was born in Hampshire County, Virginia (now West Virginia) on August 15, 1804, the third of fourteen children born to Benjamin Slane (1773-1842) and Delilah Poston (1783-1850). The author's uncle, Roland Benjamin, described the Slane family's origin:

Our Slane line is Benjamin(1), Daniel(2), Benjamin(3), and Daniel Fletcher(4). Benjamin(1) was born, probably in County Tyrone, Ireland, about 1713 and his son Daniel(2) was born there also about 1738. Both father and son emigrated to Fort Edwards, Virginia (now Capon Bridge, Hampshire County, West Virginia) around 1750.

In 1767 Daniel settled on a farm at Sandy Ridge. (That farm remained in the Slane family until at least 1969). Daniel's farm had been part of the extensive land holdings of Lord Fairfax in this area which George Washington surveyed in the 1740s. The sale of the farm by Lord Fairfax was documented on a goatskin vellum, still in the Slane family. After the Revolutionary War, the United States nullified all of the land acquisitions of Lord Fairfax; Daniel had to repurchase his farm from the government in 1790. He died at Sandy Ridge in 1795.

Daniel's son Benjamin(3) was born in 1773. In 1801, he married Delilah Poston, also born in Hampshire County and the daughter of Colonel Elias Poston of a well-known family originally from Maryland. Benjamin and Delilah became the parents of Daniel Fletcher Slane(4) in 1804. Benjamin died in Hampshire County in 1842 and Delilah (in Peoria County, Illinois) in 1850.

Daniel Fletcher Slane became a school teacher. In Guernsey County in east-central Ohio on March 15, 1827, Daniel married Mahala LaFollette. She was the daughter of Isaac LaFollette and, like Daniel, had been born in Hampshire County, Virginia. In Guernsey County, they raised five daughters, the last one born in 1835. They moved to Muskingum County, Ohio between 1835 and 1838. Their final move was to Peoria County, Illinois around 1840. They would have five more children, some born in Ohio and some born in Peoria County, Illinois. According to *Prairie Roots*, the quarterly journal of the Peoria County Genealogical Society, Daniel was a school teacher in both Ohio and Illinois. Clearly, Daniel was better educated than many men of his day.

For about 15 years prior to the onset of the Civil War, Daniel and Mahala lived on land that they owned in Rosefield Township of Peoria County, Illinois. Although there is no indication that Daniel Slane had ever met Samuel Kirkman before, he

certainly knew the LaFollette brothers. Jacob and John LaFollette were nephews of Daniel Slane's wife (Mahala LaFollette), making them his nephews by marriage.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 15, 1862, Daniel volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Musician in Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 10 inches tall. Either by coincidence or design, his day of enlistment — Friday, August 15, 1862 — was also his 58th birthday. Other records indicate that he played the fife. Coupled with his older age, the high, shrill notes of his fife would have made Daniel Slane hard to miss.

Unfortunately, Daniel was also 58 years old, and at some point in time, this fact was discovered, and he was discharged from the regiment. The Union Army considered those over 45 years of age as too old to serve. Daniel exceeded that upper limit by 13 years! Bentley's Regimental History reported that he "discharged for disability" and the Illinois Roster of Officers and Enlisted Men notes that he was mustered out at Saint Louis, Missouri. It is not clear how long he was with the regiment, but it was certainly not long enough for him to experience any of their sufferings of war.

Daniel returned to his home in Rosefield Township of Peoria County. Census records for 1870 show him living alone with his wife. However, by 1880, two of their granddaughters — 16-year-old Nina Maxwell and 9-year-old Rosa LaFollette — were living with them.

Daniel Slane died on February 21, 1884, at the age of 79. He was buried in Combs Cemetery west of Edwards in Peoria County.

Unbeknownst to either Daniel Slane or Samuel Kirkman, their ancestral paths would eventually cross, but not until eight years after Daniel's death. On February 18, 1892, Daniel Slane's grandson (John Franklin Doubet) married Samuel Kirkman's daughter (Alice Ann Kirkman). Because that marriage took place, the author can claim Daniel Slane as his 3rd great grandfather. Because of his age, Daniel was one generation older than his other Civil War ancestors.

Mahala died about four months after the wedding, sometime in June of 1892. Her burial site is unknown.

Photo Note: The post-war image of Daniel Slane was adapted from a family photograph owned by the author's uncle, Roland Benjamin.

Ancestral Connections: Daniel Slane is the author's 3rd great grandfather. That ancestral connection was made when Daniel Slane's grandson (John Franklin Doubet) married Samuel Kirkman's daughter (Alice Ann Kirkman), thereby connecting Samuel Kirkman to the Slane family.

Furthermore, since the LaFollette brothers, Jacob and John, were nephews of Daniel Slane's wife Mahala LaFollette, they were also related to Daniel Slane and to the author. The LaFollette brothers are the author's first cousins, 4 times removed.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Poston, Cheshire, Robins, McDonnel, Hall, LaFollette, Kale, Miller, Doubet, Speers, Race

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **DoubetDW78**, **ClydeHendricks**, **Curly1952**, **Glen Smith**. Also *Prairie Roots*, the quarterly journal of the Peoria County Genealogical Society, Volume VIII, Number 1, pages 15-16.

BENTLEY



William H. Bentley

(1830-1920)

Private (to Corporal), Company I, 77th Illinois
Elmwood Township, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
LD57-QZ3

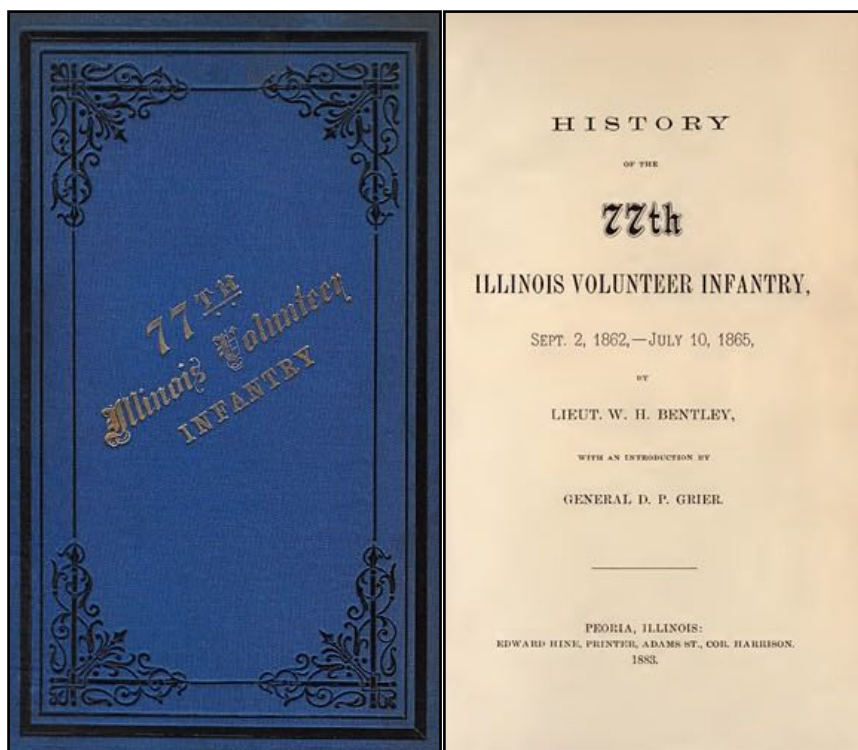


Note: William Bentley is neither included in Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection nor an ancestor of the author. However, William Bentley played a critical role in making all of his historical research possible. In 1883, Bentley published *History of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry*, a 396-page book that told the complete history of that Peoria-based infantry regiment and their experiences during the Civil War.

William H. Bentley was born on November 19, 1830 in Rochdale, England to Henry H. Bentley (b. 1801) and Grace Whatmough (b. 1800). He was yet another soldier from the 77th Illinois to have emigrated to America from the northern boroughs of Lancashire, which is known today as Greater Manchester. William was only two years old when his family boarded the *Ship Ajax* and emigrated to New York, arriving on November 29, 1832. It's not clear where the family lived initially, but by the 1850 Census, they were living in Cumberland Township of Greene County, in the southwestern corner of Pennsylvania.

Five years later, a special census in Illinois revealed that the Bentley family was living in Peoria County in 1855. Sometime in 1857, William married Hannah Bell Lucas, who had been born in Pennsylvania in 1834. They had two sons before the Civil War years, George and Edgar, both of whom lived into their 50s.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 14, 1862, at the age of 31, William volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company I of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 3 inches tall. His nativity was given as England, he was



The cover and title page of William Bentley's *History of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry*, published in 1883.

listed as married, and his occupation was listed as teacher.

During the war, William was listed as one of the wounded men following the Battle of Arkansas Post on January 3, 1863. This was also the battle in which Samuel Kirkman received his war injury. Later that year, in October, William was promoted to Corporal, and in March of 1864, he was discharged from the 77th Illinois and promoted to First Lieutenant of Company D of the 77th U.S. Colored Infantry. He would remain in that position through the remainder of the war. For these units of the “Corps d’Afrique,” the Union recruited freed slaves who had been liberated from nearby plantations and had no means to earn a living and no place to go. Local Union commanders, starved for replacements, started equipping volunteer units with cast-off uniforms and obsolete or captured firearms. The men performed guard or picket duties to free up white soldiers for maneuver units. In exchange for their service to the Union Army, their families were fed, clothed, and housed for free at the Army camps. For the most part, the troops of the Corps d’Afrique served with distinction.

After the cessation of fighting, on October 1, 1865, Bentley was transferred to Company H of the 10th U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery, which is where he remained until his resignation from the army on September 18, 1866.

After the war, William and Hannah lived in Elmwood, Illinois (in Peoria County) and had four additional children — one daughter and three sons. The daughter, Emma Jane, lived the longest, dying in February of 1939 at the age of 72.

William’s wife Hannah died on May 16, 1904 at the age of 70. William outlived his wife by about 16 years, dying on May 1, 1920. They are both buried in Elmwood Township Cemetery in Elmwood, Illinois.

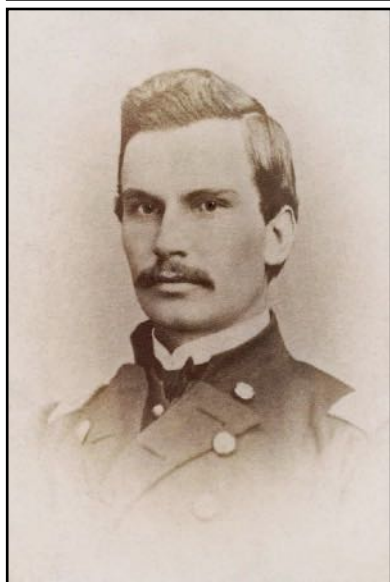
Ancestral Connections: William Bentley was the husband of Hannah Lucas, who is the author’s 10th cousin, 3 times removed.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Whatmough, Merrill, Hargreaves, Shepperd, Lucas, Hoskins, Brush, Pemble, Momyer, Myers, Catton, Hayward

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **Steve Bistrup**, **adrianfr1288**, **Christine Shaffer**, and **RJWieda**. Also the “Corps d’Afrique” section of the *Wikipedia* article “United States Colored Troops.”

GRIER



David Perkins Grier

(1836-1891)

Company G, 8th Missouri
Colonel, 77th Illinois
City of Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois

Note: David Perkins Grier is neither included in Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection nor an ancestor of the author. However, David Grier was the commanding officer of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry regiment and is therefore included here.

David Perkins Grier was born on December 26, 1836 in Danville, a borough in Montour County in east-central Pennsylvania. His parents were John Cooper Grier (b. 1808) and Elizabeth Perkins (b. 1813). David was the second child of eight and their second son. Six of the eight children lived to adulthood. The Grier family moved to Luzerne County, a couple of counties to the east, shortly before the 1850 Census.

Ten years later, the 1860 Census showed that the Grier family had moved to the city of Peoria, Illinois. Also living with them were two servants, 24-year-old Mary Vera (born in Ireland) and 16-year-old Eliza Smith (born in Germany).

David Grier's military career began on June 20, 1861, more than a year before the formation of the 77th Illinois. His service would continue for the duration of the Civil War, as described in detail by William Bentley in his *History of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry*, as follows:

"At the outbreak of the war, General Grier was engaged in business at Elmwood, Illinois. As soon as he heard of the fall of Fort Sumpter [sic] he expressed his determination to enter the service. He at once began recruiting a company, and the ranks were soon full, when he was elected captain. He tendered the services of himself and company to Gov. Yates, of Illinois, but as the state quota was already full, he was not accepted. He then took his company to St. Louis, where they were mustered into the service in June, 1861 as Co. "G," 8th Missouri Volunteer Infantry. As Captain of that company he was actively engaged for several months, participating in the battles of Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, and the siege and capture of Corinth, Miss., besides many skirmishes of minor importance.

On the 25th day of August, 1862, Captain Grier was ordered to report at Springfield, Illinois, for orders. On arriving there he was commissioned by Gov. Yates as colonel of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Sept. 2d, and was mustered on the 12th of the same month. He was in command of his regiment continuously from that time until the surrender of Vicksburg, July 4, 1863. During the siege of Jackson, Miss., and until the return to Vicksburg, he was in command of the Brigade to which the 77th belonged. At Franklin and New Iberia, La., Nov. 1863, he commanded the 2d Brigade, 4th Division, 13th Army Corps. In August, 1864, he was placed in command of all the land forces on Dauphine Island, Ala., under the orders of Major General Granger, who was in

command of the expedition. After the capture of Fort Gaines, all the troops on the island, excepting the 77th and one other regiment, crossed over to the peninsula and laid siege to Fort Morgan. Colonel Grier was ordered over with them, and retained command of all the land forces there during the siege, and until the capture of the Fort.

On the 26th of March, 1865, Colonel Grier was commissioned BREVET BRIGADIER GENERAL, a promotion well earned by four years of faithful service, and too long withheld. When General Canby organized the expedition against Mobile, in the spring of 1865, General Grier was assigned to duty on his Brevet rank, and ordered to the command of the 1st Brigade, 3d Division, 13th Army Corps. He retained command of the Brigade during the entire campaign against Mobile, and the assaults on Spanish Fort and Blakely, and also after the capture of Mobile, on the march up the Tombigbee River. On the return from that march he was assigned to the command of the 3d Division, 13th Army Corps, and remained in command of the Division until he and his regiment were mustered out, July 10, 1865.

During all this time, and in every position to which he was assigned, General Grier had the entire confidence of his own regiment, and of all the other troops under his command. As he led the 77th to the front in 1862, so he had the satisfaction of bringing home what remained of that regiment at the close of the war."

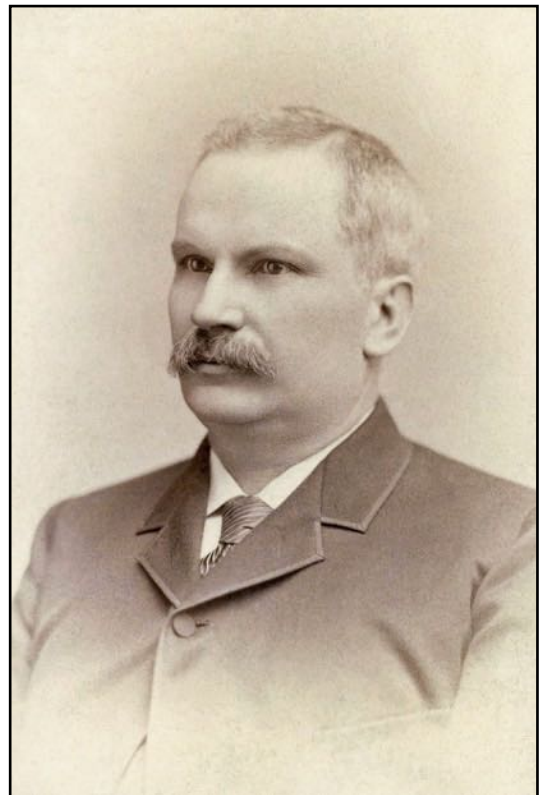
After the surrender of Vicksburg in early July of 1863, the 77th Illinois enjoyed a layover of more than a month near New Orleans. During that time, Colonel Grier obtained a leave of absence, returned to Peoria, and married Anna McKinney (b. 1840) on September 18, 1863. He was 26 and his new wife was 23. Anna had also been born in Pennsylvania.

Find a Grave member John Griffith provided some additional details of David Grier after the war:

"After the war he lived in St. Louis, Missouri and was a active member in the G.A.R. and the Fraternal Order of the Legion of Honor. When the Grand Army of the Republic had their encampment in St. Louis, he was Grand Marshall of the parade. One of the speakers at his funeral was Colonel Seth W. Cobb, who had been in the Confederate Army. The two had met during the war and afterwards became good friends."

In the years that followed, David and Anna would raise seven children, five sons and two daughters. All their children would live to adulthood. The 1880 Census indicated that David was a commission merchant, which is someone who buys or sells products for a percentage of the sales price. Later, in his death register, his occupation was given as grain merchant, which may explain what product he bought and re-sold.

Sometime between 1880 and 1891, the family moved from Peoria to 3126 Lucas Street in Saint Louis, Missouri. It was here that David Grier



David P. Grier in 1886, at the age of about 50. From the collection of the Missouri History Museum.



David's wife, Anna McKinney

died on April 21, 1891 at the age of 54. The Missouri Death Register lists the "disease" as liver cirrhosis.

The 1900 Census showed Anna living with son Robert, daughter Annie, daughter Margaret, Margaret's husband Henry, a nurse named Martha Houghtailing, and a servant named Hester Cook. The 1910 Census showed that Anna still lived with son Robert, daughter Annie, and a servant named Ida Franz.

Anna Grier outlived her husband by 27 years, dying on December 30, 1918 at the age of 78. They are both buried in Springdale Cemetery in Peoria, Illinois.

Photo Note: The two images of David Perkins Grier, one taken during the war and the other 20 years after, are from CdVs in the collection of the Missouri History Museum.

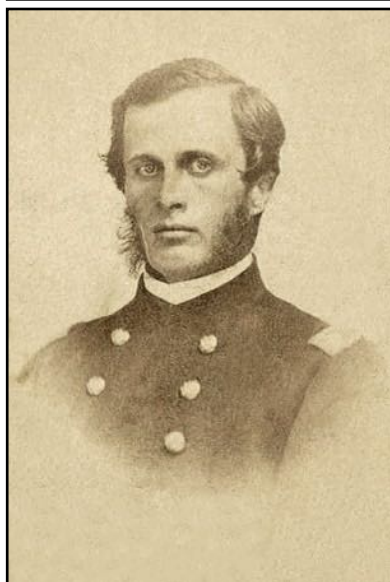
Ancestral Connections: David Perkins Grier is the author's 8th cousin, 3 times removed.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Perkins, Ferrier, McKinney, Jackson, Stewart, Todd, Chase, Miller, Hibben, Campbell, Clarke

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **Shirley530122**, **Nancy Jane Arnold**, **georgette britt**, and **twopeg**, as well as *Find a Grave* member **John "J-Cat" Griffith**

WEBB



Lysander R. Webb

(1834-1864)

Lieutenant Colonel, 77th Illinois
City of Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois

Note: Lysander Webb is neither included in Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection nor an ancestor of the author. However, Lieutenant Colonel Lysander Webb was the second-in-command of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry regiment, and was its highest ranking fatality during the war. He is therefore included here.

Lysander R. Webb was born in 1834 in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, which is located in that state's westernmost county, Berkshire. Much of his short, 30-year life was summarized by Virginia Ballance Webb Bash (his widow) after the war, and printed in William Bentley's *History of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry*. Those sections are reproduced in smaller type in block quotes below.

"Col. Webb was born in Berkshire County, Mass., singularly alone in the world. His brothers died in childhood, his guardian was childless, and I never knew of but one cousin, the Hon. J. A. Harris, of Cleveland, Ohio, and he, too, has been dead for ten years."

"Left an orphan early in life, he was adopted by Colonel [William Shepard], a man of large business connections, and, as was supposed, of immense wealth. With the expectation of inheriting this, he was reared in affluence, every imaginary wish gratified before it was expressed, and petted extravagantly by his doting foster-mother and her maiden sister."

"Notwithstanding this, he exhibited a strong literary bias, and was, with many misgivings, sent to Yale. For three years he continued his studies most creditably, but near the close of that time was suddenly recalled home by the accidental death of his guardian, speedily followed by the death of his wife. An examination of the property to which he believed himself heir, showed a lamentable state of affairs. Everything was confusion, and the result of the disentanglement swept away, not only his original patrimony, but every penny belonging to Col. Shepard, as well. But Col. Webb was not one to sit down and cry over ill-fortune."

"Although little more than a boy, as soon as he comprehended the state of affairs, he started to Springfield, Mass., and made application for employment to the *Republican*, which was even at that early day, the leading paper of Western New England. Something in the eager, boyish face, attracted the attention of Mr. [Samuel] Bowles, and he give him a desk in the editorial room, as it chanced, by the side of J. G. Holland, the afterwards famous 'Timothy Titcomb.' " [Under the pen name Timothy Titcomb, Josiah G. Holland was an American novelist and poet who also co-founded *Scribner's Monthly Illustrated Magazine*].

"For a year he worked night and day to learn his work, asking no greater praise than the smiles of his associates. The next year, N. C. Geer, desiring to start a Republican paper in Waukegan, Illinois, wrote to Mr. Bowles for a 'live editor' to take charge of it, and the result was that Mr. Webb was sent to fill the place. From the first,

the success of the new enterprise was assured, and when, a couple of years later, it was found necessary to establish a new Republican daily paper in the stronghold of Democracy, as Peoria was then considered, Mr. N. C. Geer was induced to take it in hand, and Mr. Webb accompanied him as editor. The magnetism of the new editor was felt at once, and for the first time, Peorians had a paper of which they were proud.”

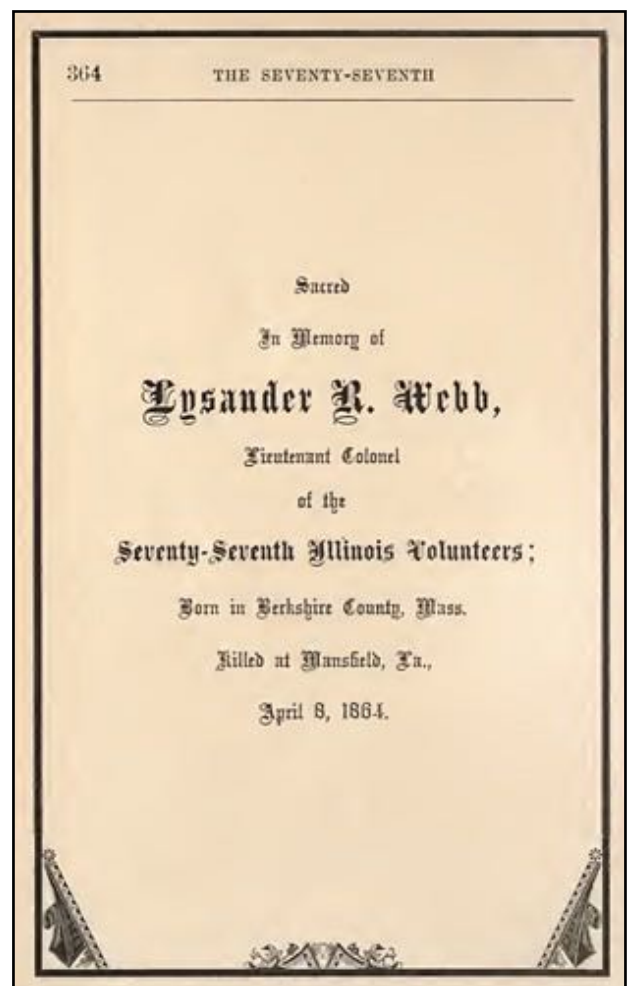
In Peoria, he became editor of the *Peoria Daily Transcript*. On June 24, 1858, at age of 24, he married Virginia Ballance (b. 1838), who was the daughter of Charles Ballance, a leading lawyer of Central Illinois who had served several terms as a member of the Peoria city council, and in 1855 was elected mayor of the city.

[S]oon after, at the instigation of his father-in-law, [Lysander] gave up his connection with the *Transcript*, and began the study of law. Here his indomitable energy and industry came to his aid, and in less than a year he had accomplished what is considered a two year’s course, and was admitted to the bar. His partner was Peter Davidson, afterwards Major of Artillery, and a brilliant future opened before him. But the war broke out and the first shot at the old flag sent the hot blood coursing through his veins with indignation.

Charles Ballance was described as a staunch friend of the Union cause, and he was instrumental in recruiting men for their volunteer army. In return for that service, Ballance was commissioned as Colonel of the 77th Illinois Infantry, but because of his age (61), he declined the position, and David P. Grier was elected in his place. Charles Ballance’s son-in-law, Lysander Webb, was elected Lieutenant Colonel of that same regiment.

Lysander mustered into the regiment on September 18, 1862. During the war, Lysander often documented his experiences in battle — particularly the battles of Arkansas Post and Vicksburg — and sent them back for publication in his own *Peoria Daily Transcript*. Some of William Bentley’s regimental history is excerpted from these personal accounts written by Lt. Colonel Webb.

On April 8, 1864, the 77th Illinois, part of the 1st Brigade of the 4th Division of the 13th Army Corps, participated in the Battle of Mansfield in northwestern Louisiana. Before the battle even began, during early skirmishing, Lt. Colonel Webb was killed by a Confederate sharpshooter. Private William Wiley of Company C noted in his diary entry for that date that Webb had a strong



Page 364 of William Bentley’s *History of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry* pays tribute to the memory of Lysander R. Webb.

premonition of his death:

“Soon after we took the advance, Lieutenant Colonel Webb who was allways [sic] full of vim and and aparently [sic] fearless became very much depressed and came to Captain McCulloch and told him that he had a premonition that he would be killed that day and that thought over came [sic] him that he was unfit to perform his duty and that he thought of asking the brigade commander to have the regiment relieved from taking the front. Captain McCulloch [McCulloch] said he tried to talk him out of the premonition idea but the colonel told him it was no use to talk to him that way that he knew it just as well as he knew that he breathed and for the captain to hold himself in readiness [sic] to take command of the regiment. A short time after that the colonel rode forward to where Colonel Landrum [Landram], the brigade commander was and looked up to speak when a musket ball struck him just below the eye and killed him instantly. His body was carried into a vacant house nearby.”

Jacob H. Snyder, Musician from Company I wrote a lengthy description of the ill-fated Battle of Mansfield (a.k.a. Sabine Cross Roads) and wrote:

“I cannot close without paying a tribute to the memory of our lamented Lieutenant Colonel L. R. Webb. He was shot through the head and killed instantly, during our skirmishing in the forenoon. An excellent officer, eminently courteous and social, he commanded the respect and esteem of all who came in contact with him, and his loss is deeply felt by his comrades in arms.”

Lysander Webb's widow, Virginia, remembered her fallen husband:

“Col. Webb was a singularly handsome man, with brown hair and eyes, and an engaging manner that few could resist. As a soldier, he was brave and daring to a fault. It was his fortune to lead his regiment on many trying occasions, and in all he added fresh laurels to his reputation. The affection between the various officers of the 77th was unusually fraternal, and neither officers nor men would have shrunk from any danger when Col. Webb led the way.”

Virginia Ballance Webb would re-marry about 2½ years later as a result of two family tragedies that occurred in 1864. Virginia's younger sister was Josephine Rench Ballance (b. 1841) and she married a man named Daniel Norricks Bash on January 7, 1864. Three months later (April 8, 1864), Virginia lost her husband Lysander to a sharpshooter's bullet in Louisiana. 6½ months later (and 9½ months after marrying Daniel) Josephine died on October 23, 1864.

In the span of 6½ months, Virginia Webb and Daniel Bash had both lost their spouses, and perhaps because of their shared grief, they sought each other for comfort. A little more than two years later — on December 6, 1866 — Virginia and Daniel wed in Peoria, Illinois. They would have a number of children in the years ahead. Daniel died on April 19, 1909 at the age of 75. Virginia died on December 6, 1926 at the age of 88. Virginia and Daniel are both buried in Springdale Cemetery in Peoria, Illinois. Lysander Webb's final resting place is unknown. Federal dead from the battle were often given hasty burials, or later relocated to other cemeteries in Louisiana. Repeated efforts were made to

recover his remains for reburial in Peoria, but they all proved ineffectual. As his wife noted, "Like many another brave man, he sleeps in an unknown grave to wait the final summons."

Photo Note: The photo of Lysander Webb comes from a CdV found in the collection of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois.

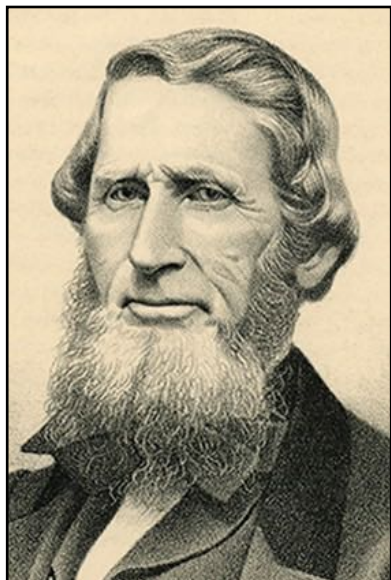
Ancestral Connections: None

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Kellogg, Ballance, Schnebly

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **dawebb0085**, **maryeedwards85**, **jrentch, 1_msoconnor**, and **Curtis Stull**

BALLANCE



Charles Ballance

(1800-1872)

Regimental Organizer and original Colonel, 77th Illinois
City of Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois

FamilySearch ID:
LHJL-PXQ

Note: Charles Ballance is neither included in Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection nor an ancestor of the author. However, he was a "prominent Peorian" in the mid-1800s who largely raised and financed the regiment and served as its original Colonel before relinquishing those duties to David Grier, largely because of his age. He was also the father-in-law of Lieutenant Colonel Lysander Webb. Because of these factors, he is included here.

Charles Ballance was born on November 10, 1800 in Madison County, Kentucky. According to the DAR's *Lineage Book of Charter Members*, his parents were Willis Ballance and Joyce Green, who had been married in 1796. Corporal

Willis Ballance had served in the Virginia militia and had received a land warrant in return for these services. Willis died in 1824 in Mercer County, Kentucky, which is two counties to the northwest of Madison County. There was also an elder Charles Ballance (young Charles' grandfather) who served in Captain John Some's company, Tenth Virginia regiment during the Revolutionary War, who died on May 13, 1777 from wounds received in action.

Based on research conducted by Deborah Dougherty of the Peoria Historical Society, when Charles was eight years old, his family moved from Virginia to a Shaker Village in Kentucky. "By age 15, [Charles] was an accomplished gardener; he eventually wrote one of the first technical gardening manuals in the West, which was included with the sale of seed packets."

In 1829, at 29 years of age, Charles left the Shaker village to forge a new life outside the Shaker society, electing to read law with Judge Terah T. Haggin in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, and was admitted to the bar. He arrived in Peoria in November 1831, describing it as the "richest country on earth." Ballance was elected County Surveyor.

Charles married Julia Margaret Schnebly on March 24, 1836 in Peoria County, Illinois. Julia was 15 years his junior, and had been born in Hagerstown, Maryland on July 13, 1816. Charles and Julia would have ten children, seven girls and three boys — Virginia (b. 1838), Josephine (b. 1841), Julia (b. 1843), Eliza (b. 1844), Sarah (b. 1845), Charles (b. 1847), Willis (b. 1849), Mary (b. 1851), John (b. 1853), and Amanda (b. 1855).

In 1852, Charles Ballance was elected a city alderman, and in 1855 he was elected mayor of Peoria.

On June 24, 1858, their eldest daughter Virginia married Lysander R. Webb, who would eventually serve as Lieutenant Colonel of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry before dying in battle in April of 1864.

Charles was 60 years old when the Civil War began in April of 1861. A little more than a year later, in the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. Charles was described as a staunch friend of the Union cause, and he was instrumental in recruiting men for an additional regiment from central Illinois, to be designated the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. According to Deborah Dougherty's research, he also contributed a considerable amount of his own money to form that regiment.

William Bentley describes the original quandary of leadership in his *History of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry*:

"While the organization of the Regiment was in progress, rival claims appeared for the colonelcy, which for a time seemed difficult of adjustment. Charles Ballance, Esq., a prominent citizen of Peoria, had been authorized by the governor to raise a regiment of infantry. He had devoted his time and energies to this object, and he very naturally felt that he was the proper person to command the regiment after it was fully organized. On the other hand, there was a strong feeling in the Regiment, both among the officers and men, in favor of David P. Grier, who was also well known in Peoria and surrounding country, and who was at that time the captain of Co. G, 8th Missouri Volunteers.

Mr. Ballance's friends urged his claims on the ground that as he had been chiefly instrumental in organizing the Regiment, he had the best right to command it. Captain Grier's friends urged his military experience as a reason why the command should be given to *him*. And again, inasmuch as Mr. Ballance was an old man, and an influential citizen, it was thought that he could do more good for the country by remaining at home than by going into the field. But Captain Grier was a young man, and able to endure the hardships and privations of a soldier's life, as he had already shown on the fields of Donelson and Shiloh.

While arguments and negotiations upon the subject in dispute were pending between the parties interested, Gov. Yates commissioned Mr. Ballance as colonel of the Regiment on the 18th of August. By an arrangement subsequently entered into, the command was transferred to Captain Grier, and he was commissioned accordingly."

Charles's son-in-law, Lysander Webb, was elected the regiment's Lieutenant Colonel.

Eight years later, at the age of 70, Charles completed one of the most comprehensive accounts of early Peoria history, titled *The History of Peoria, Illinois*. Charles died on August 10, 1872, three months shy of his 72nd birthday. His wife Julia outlived him by 17 years, dying on October 9, 1899. They are both buried in Springdale Cemetery in Peoria, Illinois.

Deborah Dougherty described Charles Ballance as "a Renaissance man [who] lived an extraordinary life after rising to prominence in Peoria." Because of his importance to the history of Peoria, Illinois, the Peoria Historical Society established the Charles Ballance Bequest Society to recognize those people who have contributed to that organization's endowment fund.

Photo Note: The drawing of Charles Ballance is from the Peoria Historical Society.

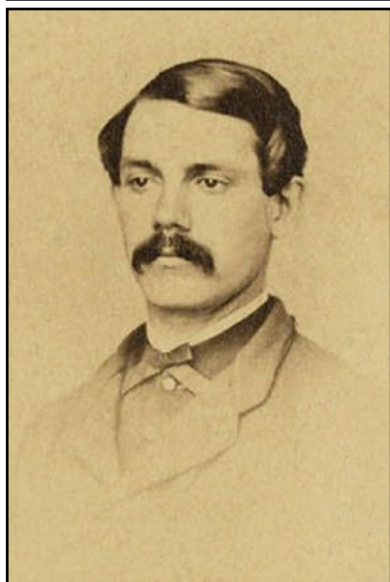
Ancestral Connections: As previously noted, Charles Ballance was the father-in-law of Lysander R. Webb. Charles' wife (Julia Margaret Schnebly) was related to first cousins Louis and Lyman Rensch. More specifically, Julia's great-uncle was Jacob Rensch (1761-1811), who was the shared grandfather of both Louis and Lyman. As a result Lyman and Louis were Julia's second cousins.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Schnebly, Snavely, Webb, Bash, Robison, Rice, Greene, Nevins, Lundquist, Collins, Brackett

Sources: Dougherty, Deborah. *Who Was Charles Ballance?* Peoria Magazine, February 2015. *Ancestry.com* accounts **1_msocconnor**, **Curtis Stull**, and **dawebb0085**.

PARRET



Orange Parret

(1842-1927)

Second Lieutenant, Company B, 77th Illinois
Magnolia Township, Putnam County, Illinois

Note: Orange Parret is neither included in Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection nor an ancestor of the author. However, he is included here simply because of the novelty of his name.

Orange Parret (sometimes misspelled Parrott) was born on December 24, 1842 in Magnolia Township of Putnam County, Illinois. Orange was the oldest of seven children born to William E. Parret (b. 1817) and Emma Jane "Emily" Dent (b. 1822). Orange would have two brothers and four sisters, and all but one — whose lifespan is uncertain — lived well into the twentieth century.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 22, 1862, at the age of 19, Orange volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company B of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records spell his last name "Parrott" and indicate that he stood 6 feet tall and his occupation was listed as clerk. At some time during his military career, he was promoted to First Sergeant, then Second Lieutenant. Late in the war, he was commissioned to the rank of Captain, but when he mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865, he held the rank of Second Lieutenant.

The 1870 Census revealed that the Parret family had moved one county east from Putnam County to Osage Township of LaSalle County, Illinois. Orange lived with his 54-year-old father, 48-year-old mother, and six siblings in a house that his parents owned. He and his father listed their occupation as "agricultural implements."

On October 1, 1872, Orange married Frances Arnold "Fannie" Maleham, who was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on New Year's Day of 1852. Orange and Fannie would have four children — three boys and one girl — who all lived long lives. June, their youngest child, would live to 96, dying in September of 1985.

Sometime in the late 1870s, the Parret family moved to Riverton Township of Fremont County in far southwestern Iowa. The 1880 Census showed that Orange and Fannie were joined by sons Everett and William and a 17-year-old Missouri girl named Mattie Ann Goble. Orange gave his occupation as "grain dealer." By 1885, the Parrets had moved again. . . across the state. . . to Keokuk in far southeastern Iowa.

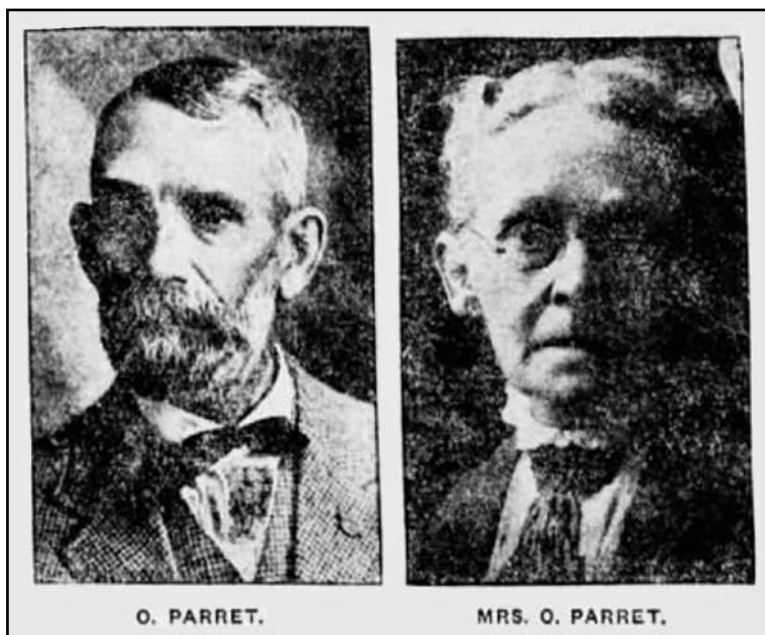
However, by the 1900 Census, the Parrets were back in Illinois, specifically Marshall County, adjacent to their former homes in Putnam and LaSalle counties. Orange still gave his occupation as "grain dealer," and he and his wife were joined

by their three youngest children — William Ross, Charles Daniel, and June Elizabeth — and Fannie's 81-year-old mother, Eliza Maleham.

The 1910 Census revealed one more move, this time to DeWitt County, which is farther south in central Illinois. Their 29 year-old son and their 20 year-old daughter still lived with them, along with Fannie's now 91-year-old mother.

On October 1, 1922, Orange and Fannie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were given a surprise party in nearby Bloomington, Illinois, and the event made the local paper, the Bloomington Pantagraph.

Orange Parret died on December 27, 1927, three days after his 85th birthday. Fannie would outlive her husband by 16 years, dying on February 28, 1944 at the age of 92. They are both buried in Park Hill Cemetery and Mausoleum in Bloomington, Illinois.



Orange and Fannie Parret celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1922, and the occasion was celebrated in the Bloomington (IL) Pantagraph. Posted on *Ancestry.com* by user **washburn_leigh**.

Photo Note: The photo of Orange Parret comes from a CdV found in the online collection of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois.

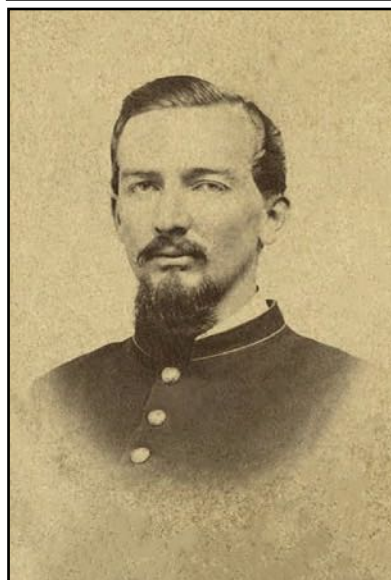
Ancestral Connections: Orange Parret is the author's 10th cousin, once removed.

Same Surname: None

Related Surnames: Dent, Berkshire, Bradgot, Custard, Maleham, Fenton, Wierman, Firestone, Rieck, Coan, Gray, Gould, Mitchell, Whitney, Stoner, Taylor

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **washburn_leigh**, **sjochheim1**, **chuckmehle1**, and **Janet Wade**

WILEY



Lemon Hill Wiley

(1844-1912)

Principal Musician, 77th Illinois
Elmwood Township, Peoria County, Illinois

Note: Lemon Wiley is neither included in Samuel Kirkman's CdV collection nor an ancestor of the author. However, he is included here simply because of the novelty of his name and his special role in the regiment as Principal Musician, a skillset that would serve him well for the remainder of his life.

Lemon "Lem" Hill Wiley was born on April 17, 1844 in Carmichaels borough, Greene County, Pennsylvania, which is located in the southwestern corner of the state. His parents were William Wiley (1802-1887) and Mary Ann "Polly" Jackson (1810-1875). Lemon was the youngest of their seven children (4 boys, 3 girls), all but one of which lived to adulthood. In Samuel P. Bates' *History of Greene County, Pennsylvania* (1888), Lem H. Wiley was one of the biographies included in that 900-page book. It described young Lem as having "acquired a common school education and worked at the blacksmith trade with his father." In the 1860 Census, 16 year-old Lemon was listed as an "apprentice" and living with his father (a blacksmith), mother, older brother William (also a blacksmith), and a 45 year-old seamstress named Eliza Jackson, who was probably related to Mary Ann.

Sometime during his youth, Lem would learn to play the cornet, and his talent for music would serve as the basis for his post-war career.

According to Bates' *History of Greene County*, early in 1862, 18 year-old Lemon left Pennsylvania and migrated west to Elmwood Township within Peoria County, Illinois.

In the summer of 1862, at the urging of governors from several northern states, Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers to suppress the rebellion. On August 15, 1862, at the age of 18, Lem volunteered for service in the Union Army, becoming a Private in Company I of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Muster records indicate that he stood 5 feet 8 inches tall and his occupation was listed as a "mechanic."

During the war, there were three men listed as Principal Musician, a position that served the regiment as a whole. The first two were Daniel B. Allen and John W. Carroll, both of whom mustered in as Musicians for Company E. Sometime in late 1862 or early 1863, Daniel Allen was promoted to Principal Musician, but his military career would end early, as he was discharged for disability in March of 1863. On June 29, 1864, both John W. Carroll and Lem were promoted to Principal Musician of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Lem mustered out of the army on July 10, 1865.

On pages 388-389 of his *History of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry* (1883), William H. Bentley gave high praise to the regimental band:

“Too much praise cannot be given to the band of the regiment. It was the universally expressed opinion of all present that it is the best band in the State. It seems a pity that it should disband after attaining such proficiency. An effort, we understand, is making to retain them in the city. We hope it will be successful. To show that we are not alone in our opinion, we subjoin the following remarks from the Springfield Journal of Saturday:

‘It is but just to say, in this connection, that the band of the Seventy-Seventh Regiment has the reputation of being one of the best in the service; and from their fine performances yesterday, we have no doubt they are entitled to the honorable distinction. The band consists of fourteen performers, under the leadership of Mr. Wiley, and what is remarkable, none of them, except the leader, having any musical experience until they entered the service. Their instruments are of the finest description, and cost over one thousand dollars. We congratulate the leader on his successful efforts in forming so fine a military band.’ ”

According to Bates’ *History of Greene County*, “upon returning home, Mr. Wiley became a member of the celebrated Light Guards Band of Peoria, with which he remained nine years, during which time, he opened a music business.” This occupation was confirmed in the 1870 Census, which listed his occupation as a “music merchant.”

On July 15, 1872, at the age of 28, Lem married Alta E. Wilson (1850-1913) in Peoria, Illinois. Alta had been listed as a school teacher in the 1870 Census, and Bates’ *History* noted that she was the daughter of Levi Wilson (1816-1900) and Mary S. Pickering (1820-1903) of Peoria. Records suggest that Lem and Alta had one child, Mary M., who died shortly after birth.

Bates’ *History* also noted that “in 1880, [Lem] became a leader in Haverly’s Original Mastodon Minstrels, organized in Chicago, and remained with them five years, during which time he played in all the large cities in the United States and most of the principal cities in the old world.”

According to Wikipedia, John H. “Jack” Haverly was an American theatre manager and promoter of blackface minstrel shows. During the 1870s and 1880s, he created an entertainment empire centered on his minstrel troupes that were impressive in size and elaborate in their sets and costumes. They toured widely, both throughout the United States and in England.



This photo of Lemon H. Wiley comes from a CdV found in the collection of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois.

According to *Anthropology Goes to the Fair: The 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition* by Nancy J. Parezo and Don D. Fowler (University of Nebraska Press, 2007), Lem Wiley was a veteran of expositions who had served as the U.S. House of Representative's doorkeeper and who had organized music for presidential inaugurations (p. 154). Another unconfirmed description in Lemon Wiley's *Find a Grave.com* listing described him as an "internationally known musician who played before the Queen of England and other world leaders, [and who served as] leader of the band at the inauguration of President Garfield in 1881."

Lem Wiley's next career achievement occurred in January of 1885, when, according to Bates' *History*, he became manager of the new Grand Opera House in Peoria, Illinois. That building, located at 322 Hamilton Boulevard (between Adams Street and Jefferson Avenue) had opened on September 7, 1882 and operated until fire destroyed it on December 14, 1909.

Bates' *History* concludes its Lem Wiley listing by noting that "Mr. Wiley is considered by the world a thorough musician and remarkable cornetist."

The 1900 Census showed Lem and his wife Alta living with the family of John Boylan on 323 New York Avenue in Peoria, which was located very near to where the St. Francis Medical Center now stands. Lem is listed as a "brother in law" to Mr. Boylan in the census record.

Ten years later, the 1910 Census showed that Lem and Alta lived alone at 505 Jackson (now Spalding) Avenue in Peoria, just a few blocks from their 1900 residence. Lem's age was 65; Alta's was 60.

Lemon Wiley died on January 9, 1912 at the age of 67. His wife Alta died about a year and a half later, on September 24, 1913. They are both buried at the Springdale Cemetery and Mausoleum in Peoria.

Photo Note: The photographs of Lemon Wiley come from two different CdVs found in the online collection of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois.

Ancestral Connections: Lemon Wiley was the husband of Alta Wilson, who is the author's 9th cousin, 4 times removed.

Same Surname: There were two other Wileys in the 77th Illinois — John P. Wiley from Limestone Township and William Wiley from the city of Peoria. Both of these men were in Company C, while Lemon was originally mustered into Company I. They were probably not related to Lemon, nor to each other.

Related Surnames: Jackson, Mustard, Morrison, Wilson, Pickering, Dunaway, Hunnell, Grooms, Jolliff, Clendaniel

Sources: *Ancestry.com* accounts **S_wiley65**, **mawieck**, **Barbara Rook**, and **lynnbrodine**

SECTION IV

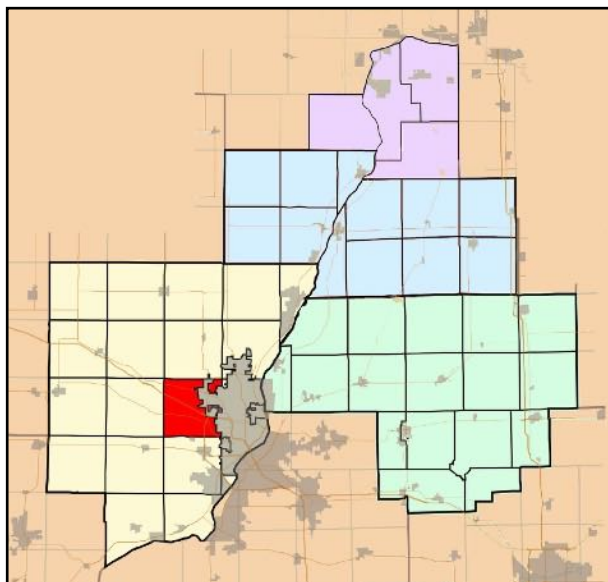


ANALYSIS

GEOGRAPHIC DISCUSSION OF THE CdV COLLECTION

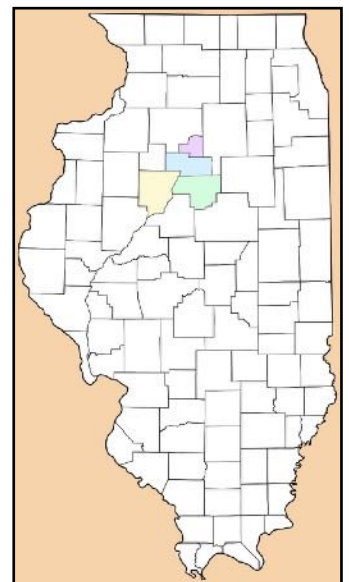
The 18 carte de visite photographs shown in [Section I](#) once belonged to Samuel Kirkman, who likely traded copies of his own CdV for those of his closest friends in the regiment. By examining these cards and researching each soldier, I can draw a few conclusions, as follows:

Of the 18 soldiers identified in these CdV cards, 13 of them were mustered into Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. These men came from farms just west of Peoria, Illinois, in two different townships — Kickapoo and Rosefield — and the city of Peoria.



Kickapoo Township, Peoria County, Illinois

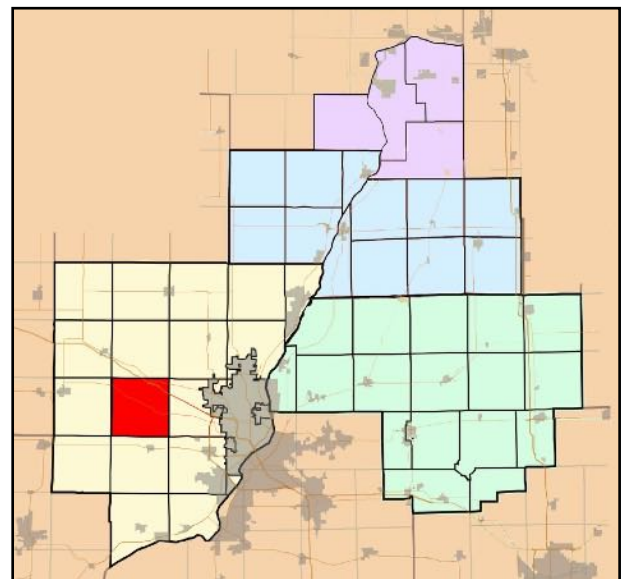
Samuel Kirkman (Private, Company K)
John Pritchard (Private, Company K)

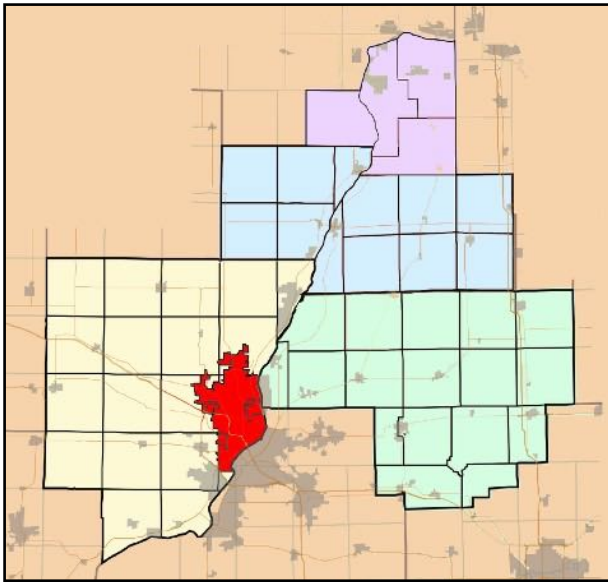


The location of these four counties in Illinois.

Rosefield Township, Peoria County, Illinois

John Camp (Private, Company K)
Imle E. Coulson (Corporal, Company K)
George W. Edwards (Sergeant, Company K)
Frederick Gilson (Private, Company K)
Oswald B. Green (Corporal, Company K)
Thomas J. Holt (Private, Company K)
John LaFollette (Private, Company K)
Henry S. Morris (Private, Company K)
Richard Morris (Private, Company K)
Lyman Rench (Private, Company K)



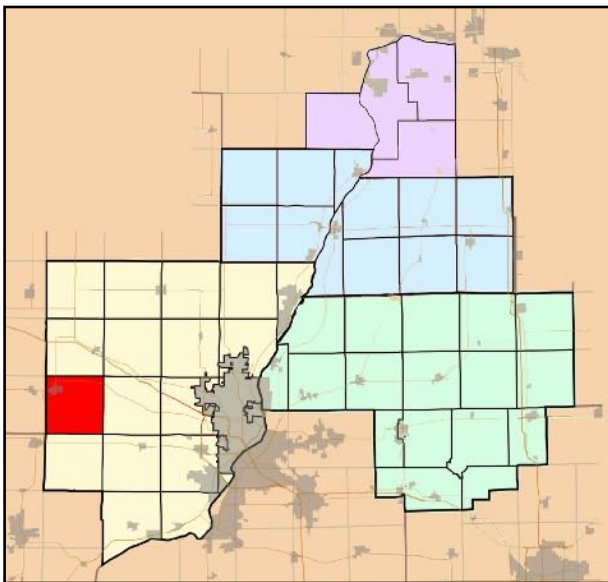


Note: Edwin R. Somers joined the 77th Illinois when the 130th Illinois was consolidated into the 77th Illinois in January of 1865.

City of Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois

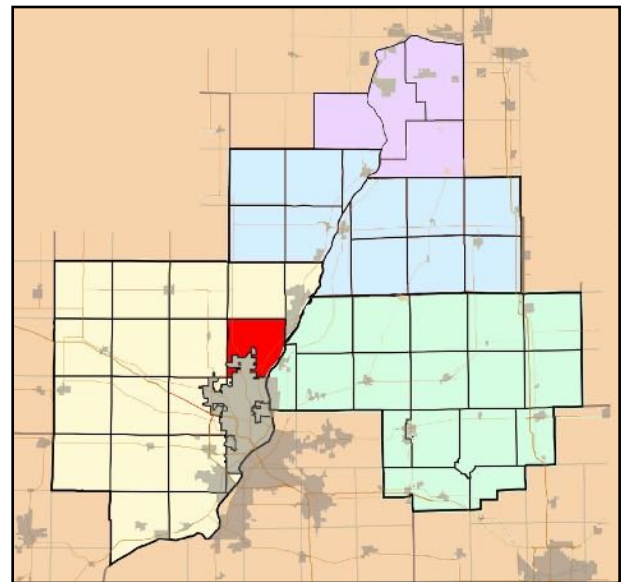
Edwin R. Somers (Private, Company K)

Four of the five remaining men were mustered into Companies B, C, E, and I from townships within Peoria, Woodford, and Putnam counties:



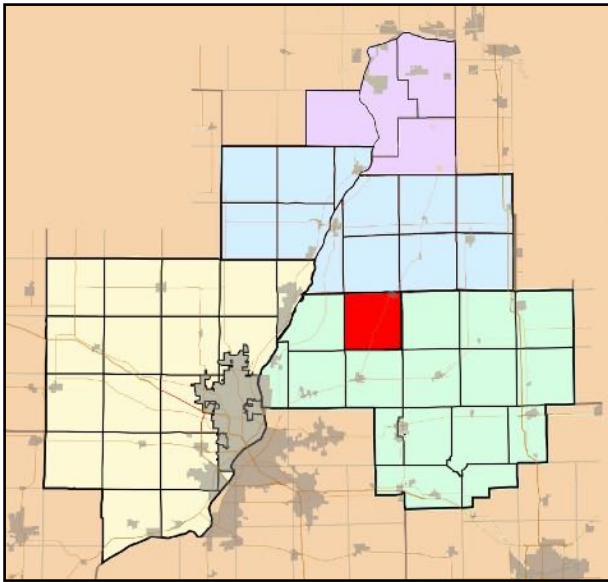
Elmwood Township, Peoria County, Illinois

Jacob H. Snyder (Musician, Company I)



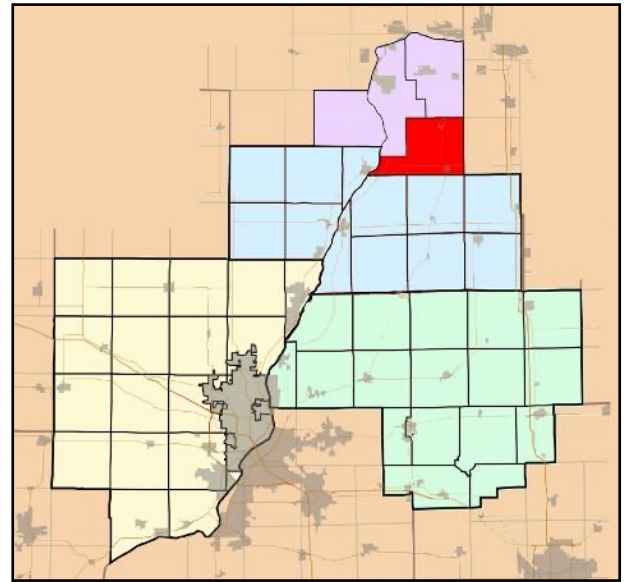
Medina Township, Peoria County, Illinois

Louis Rench (Wagoner, Company E)



Cazenovia Township, Woodford County, Illinois

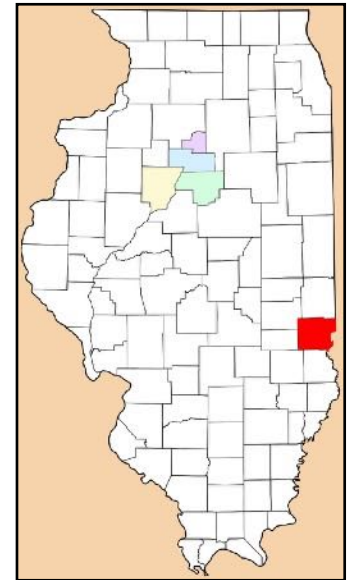
J. William Avery (Private, Company C)



Magnolia Township, Putnam County, Illinois

William G. Boman (Private, Company B)

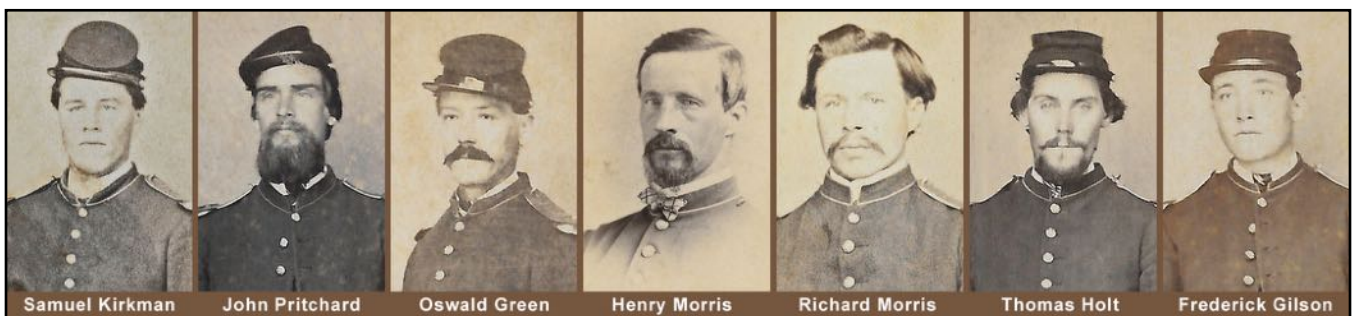
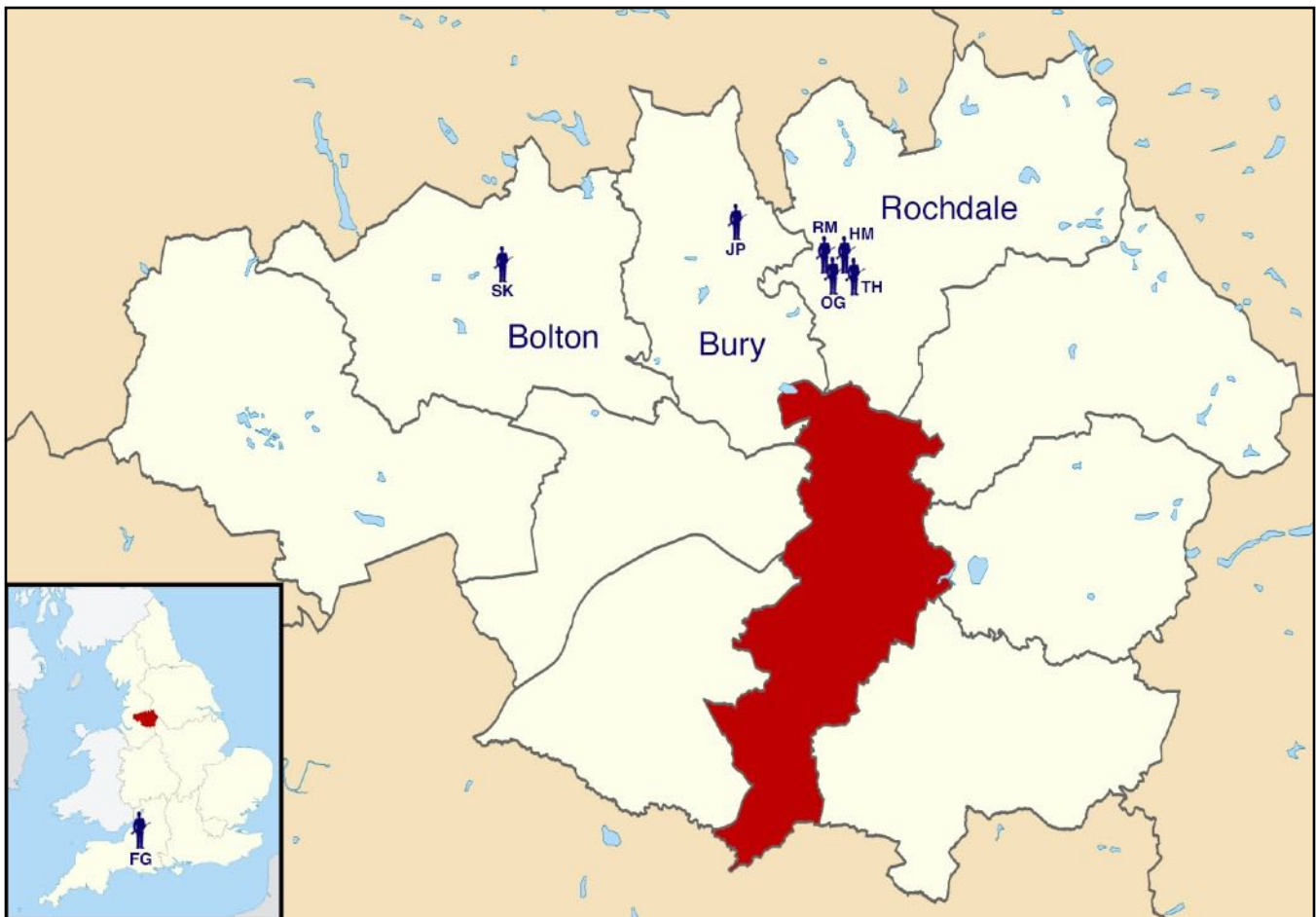
Samuel Kirkman's final CdV was for Jacob W. Wilkin, who was from the city of Marshall within Clark County in southeastern Illinois. Wilkin originally enlisted in the 130th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, but would become Captain of Company C of the 77th Illinois when the 130th Illinois was consolidated into the 77th Illinois in January of 1865.



Clark County, Illinois

Jacob W. Wilkin (Captain, Company C)

FORMER ENGLISHMEN FIGHT FOR THE UNION ARMY



Within Company K of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, at least seven men were born in England. Six of these men (Kirkman, Pritchard, Green, the Morris brothers, and Holt) emigrated to America from northern boroughs of Lancashire, which is known today as Greater Manchester. In the large map, the city of Manchester is shown in red. Frederick Gilson was born about 200 miles south of the Manchester area, in Holcombe, Somerset, England.

Despite the fact that they had been born in England, these men were still willing to fight for their adopted country.

OBSERVATIONS AND ODDITIES

During the course of investigating the ancestry of 24 men from the nineteenth century, I made a number of interesting discoveries about these men and their families. Some of the more relevant of those discoveries are included in the biographies of these men.

However, while conducting genealogical and historical research, one also finds a few miscellaneous facts that just seem odd and/or humorous when viewed from a 21st Century perspective. As with all research projects, I also learned facts that I did not specifically set out to discover. Although these observations may be obvious to more serious genealogical researchers, I am a relative newcomer to this field and therefore found these discoveries to be thought provoking. Here they are, in no particular order:

Almost everyone was a farmer in the mid-nineteenth century and lived in rural townships rather than cities or villages. In the mid-1800s, 85% of the population lived in rural area, and the remaining 15% lived in cities. Ken Burns' Civil War series on PBS first brought this fact to my attention, but my own research made it glaringly obvious. Today, most everyone has a "home town," but in the mid-1800s, you would more likely have had a home township, which is a smaller subunit of your county, which is smaller subunit of your home state. The muster records of the 77th Illinois indicated each soldier's home by township, which by today's reckoning is unfamiliar to most people. These include location names like Kickapoo, Magnolia, Millbrook, Rosefield, and Cazenovia.

Families were large, sometimes huge! It was not uncommon to find families with 8-12 children. At first, I thought that this was explained by the fact that birth control didn't exist in the nineteenth century. However, my uncle pointed out two other reasons that made even more sense. Husbands and wives wanted large families. A nineteenth and early twentieth century family farm required a lot of manpower, and the more children (i.e. workers) that a family had to help out — either in the field for boys or in the home for girls — the better off everyone in the family would be. As soon as a child was old enough to help out — in any way — they were expected to do so. Sadly, the other reason why families were large was the high death rate for infants and children. My own research confirmed this, and rarely did I find a family who didn't have a child who died before reaching adulthood. Nineteenth and early twentieth century medicine was surprisingly primitive and backwards by today's standards. Doctors, who had to be "fetched" from miles away, were more herbalists than physicians. Doctors did not understand infection, and had no idea that their own dirty hands were contributing to the death of their patients. In Civil War camp "hospitals," if a wound produced pus, the doctors thought it was a good sign and had no idea that it really meant that the wound was infected. In the Union Army, more than twice as many soldiers died of disease than died in battle. The concept of

microscopic organisms and viruses causing disease was as ridiculous an idea as space travel. Childbirth itself was a risky undertaking, and men were far more likely to have married more than one woman during their lives because of the death of their wife during childbirth than because of divorce.

Children were sometimes given unusual names. Today, we hear about celebrities giving their children unusual names, but that practice has been around for as long as there have been parents and children. Many names given to children in the nineteenth century seem strange by today's standards. In the course of my research, I found many of them; and I don't just mean outdated names, like Agnes, Blanche, Mortimer, and Barney. I mean names that "raised my eyebrows" and brought a smile to my face. Here are a few:

Starting with the soldiers named in this book, we have some non-traditional men's names: **Imle** Coulson, **Lysander** Webb, **Oswald** Green, **Orange** Parret, and **Lemon** Wiley! Other non-traditional women's names include **Kepta** Keeney Gilson, **Hephzibah** Eno Coulson, and **Hepsibeth** Coulson.

Probably the most unusual name I uncovered occurred when I was researching the ancestry of Lysander Webb, the Lieutenant Colonel of the 77th Illinois who, sadly, was that regiment's highest ranking fatality of the war. I found another man from the same area of Massachusetts where Lysander had been born named Charles Webb (1795-1875). I couldn't find an ancestral connection between him and Lysander, but I did discover that Charles Webb married a woman named **Experience Jefferson**, who was born in 1795 in Franklin County, Massachusetts and died in 1876 in Oswego County, New York at the age of 80. You could probably conjure as many 21st Century jokes as I could about a woman with the name "Experience."

People marrying their first cousins. In the Pritchard family, of the eight children who lived to adulthood, three would marry a different first cousin from the same (Lonsdale) family! That discovery raised the issue of cousin marriage, which I learned is a legitimate subject that has a rather lengthy Wikipedia article. Furthermore, I found that cousin marriage is an important topic in anthropology, specifically the "anthropology of kinship."

I've since learned that worldwide opinions vary widely as to the merits of the practice. In some cultures and communities, cousin marriages are actually considered ideal and are actively encouraged and expected. In other cultures, cousin marriages are seen as incestuous and are subject to social stigma and taboo. In the United States, 24 states prohibit marriages between first cousins, 19 states allow marriages between first cousins, and 7 states allow only some marriages between first cousins, often when the prospective bride was beyond child-bearing age. In Illinois, first-cousin marriages were legal until 1887.

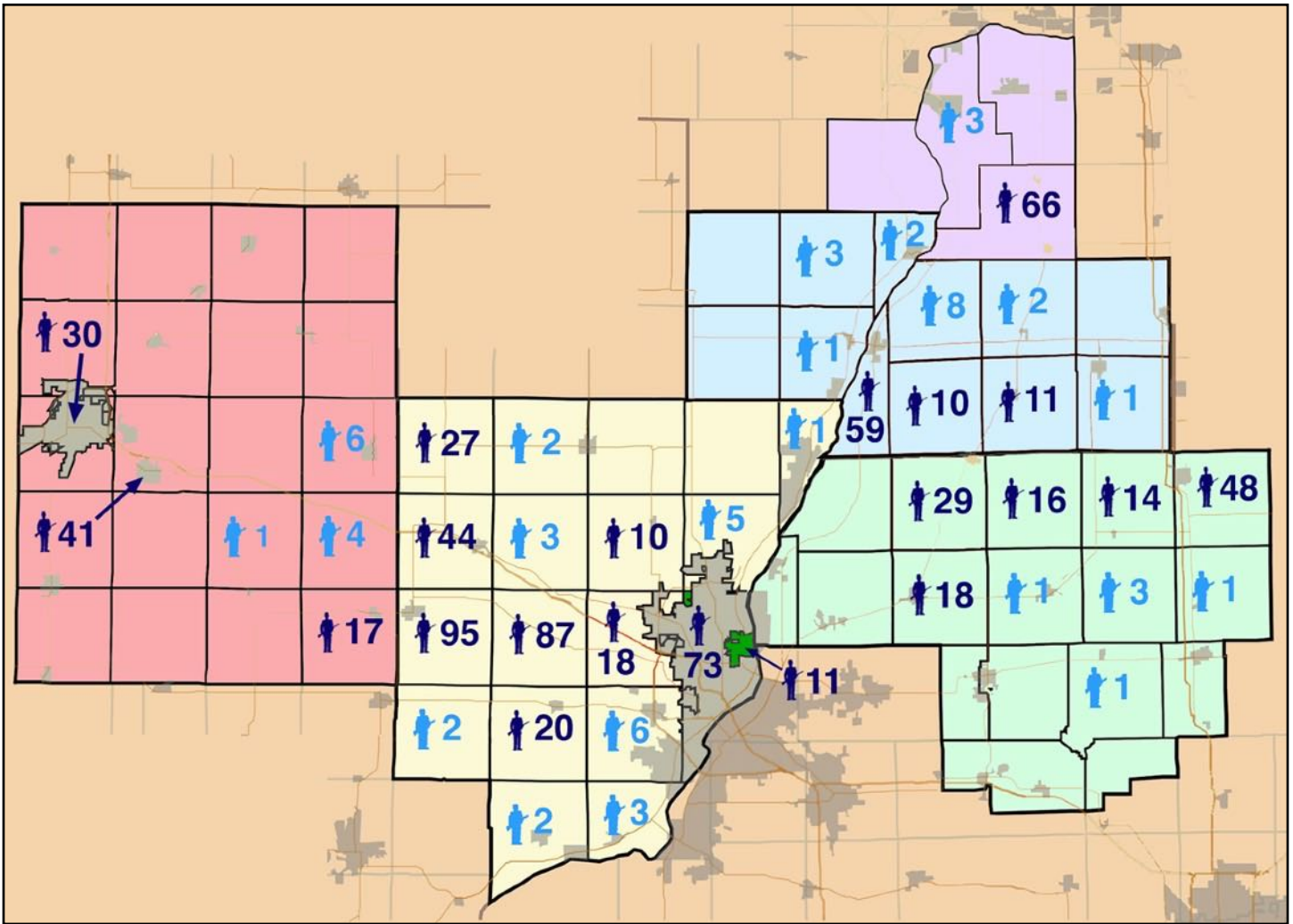


Soldier Biography Highlights. By conducting genealogical research on Samuel Kirkman's 17 identified comrades via *Ancestry.com*, I made a number of interesting discoveries, as follows:

- Seven of the men were born in England, including Samuel. Five of these men were born in the same Greater Manchester area as Samuel — Oswald Green, Henry Morris, Richard Morris, John Pritchard and Thomas Holt. The one remaining man was Frederick Gilson. To me, this seems more than a statistical coincidence; their common birth country may have sparked their friendships.
- **Brothers-in-arms become kin-in-peace, part 1:** Samuel Kirkman, Daniel Slane, Jacob LaFollette, and John LaFollette would eventually become kin through marriage.
- **Brothers-in-arms become kin-in-peace, part 2:** Oswald Green, Thomas Holt, Henry Morris, Richard Morris, and (perhaps) Edwin Somers would eventually become kin through marriage.
- Thomas J. Holt's sister, named Eliza Ann, would marry Henry Morris sometime between the war's end and 1870. Henry and Eliza Ann would have two children, a boy and a girl.
- Henry and Richard Morris were brothers, born about 4 years apart in Heywood, Lancashire, England. Henry was the older brother.
- J. William Avery was from Company C, but may have become better known to Samuel because they both worked in the quartermaster's department for a time. That department is responsible for providing troops with quarters, clothing, and equipment.
- Louis and Lyman Rench, photographed together in Samuel's CdV, were first cousins living in different townships near Peoria, Illinois.

- Three Pritchard siblings, including John, married three Lonsdale siblings who were the Pritchards' first cousins.
- George Edwards was born into an affluent family who had once owned property in western Virginia (now West Virginia) that included the ownership of at least three slaves.
- Jacob H. Snyder, the Musician from Company I, would become a minister between the war's end and 1870. His gravestone in Douglas County, Kansas reads Rev Jacob H. Snyder.
- Four men — Oswald B. Green, Thomas J. Holt, Samuel Kirkman, and Henry S. Morris — were buried in cemeteries located near their rural homes in Peoria County, Illinois. Holt and Morris were interred in the same cemetery — Pleasant Grove Cemetery near Eden, Peoria County, Illinois.
- Edwin Somers lived longer — 99 years, 4 months, and 9 days — than any other person researched for this work. Amazingly, Edwin served in the Civil War, then witnessed the Spanish-American War, World War I, and much of World War II, dying about a month after the Allies landed on D-Day!
- The only soldier not from central Illinois, Jacob W. Wilkin would arguably have the most successful career after the war. On his enlistment form for the 130th Illinois, his occupation was listed as student at law. [He would transfer into the 77th Illinois when the two regiments merged in early 1865]. After the war, Jacob became an attorney and served as an Illinois Supreme Court Justice from 1888-1907.
- With genealogical and historical records, there are frequently variations in the spelling of names. Such was the case with the following men, whose names in military history records do not quite coincide with *Ancestry.com* records, as follows:
 - Enlee E. Coulson was actually named Imle Eno Coulson
 - George Edwards' full name was George Washington Edwards
 - Oswald B. Green was actually named Oswald Byron Green
 - Louis Z. Rench was actually named Louis Young Rench
 - Lyman T. Rench's full name was Lyman Theodore Rench
 - Jacob H. Snyder's middle name was either Henry or Hever.

THE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF SOLDIERS WITHIN THE 77TH ILLINOIS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY



The chart above shows the geographic distribution (by home township) of men who enlisted in the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. To create this chart, the author inventoried the home townships or cities of all men listed in Chapter 2 of William Bentley's *History of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry*, which lists all men who mustered into the 77th Illinois in September of 1862.

The Central Illinois counties shown here are Knox (red), Peoria (yellow), Woodford (green), Marshall (blue), and Putnam (violet). The township border lines are shown within each county. Within each township that produced a volunteer soldier stands a soldier icon and a number, which is how many men volunteered for the regiment from that township, as noted in Bentley's book. Numbers rendered in light blue are for numbers less than 10. Dark blue numbers identify a township that produced 10 or more men.

The top five townships from which men volunteered for service were Elmwood Township of Peoria County (95); Rosefield Township of Peoria County (87); the city

of Peoria (73); Magnolia Township of Putnam County (66); and Lacon Township of Marshall County (59).

DISTRIBUTION BY COMPANY

The typical infantry regiment of the early Civil War consisted of 10 companies (each with exactly 100 men), according to William Hardee's 1855 *Rifle and Light Infantry Tactics* manual, which was used by both armies.

The table below was derived from the same dataset acquired from Bentley's *History of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry* as that of the previous page. It provides information about the geographic distribution of men for each company in the 77th Illinois. The table clearly illustrates the fact that during the Civil War, both regiments and their companies were highly segregated by geographic location. The advantage of that was that volunteers would likely know the men that they're serving with, and therefore perform better as soldiers. The disadvantage was that in some instances, a given city, village, or township would lose all or many of its men in one battle if that particular company was selected to lead the assault.

Regimental officers are listed separately, since they were usually selected based on their prior war record or because of local politics. However, company officers are included in their company totals, since these men were usually selected from within the company after it had been formed.

Company	Peoria	Woodford	Knox	Marshall	Putnam	Other	Unk	TOTALS
Officers	14	4	6	0	2	0	2	28
A	22	0	68	0	0	0	0	90
B	6	0	0	2	67	0	0	75
C	20	52	0	3	0	1	0	76
D	2	0	0	80	1	2	1	86
E	86	0	0	0	0	0	2	88
F	49	25	10	9	0	1	3	97
G	50	0	5	1	0	2	0	58
H	1	70	0	3	0	21	1	96
I	69	0	17	0	0	0	0	86
K	92	0	0	0	0	0	1	93
TOTALS	411	151	106	98	70	27	10	873

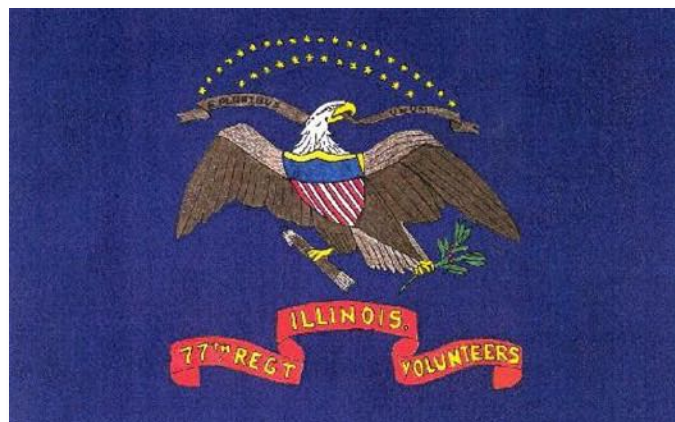
Note: Readers may notice that there is no company J. That is not an omission. The military at that time did not designate a company J. In eighteenth and nineteenth century written English, the capital "I" and "J" were difficult to distinguish, which would lead to much confusion in hand written military orders. The decision to avoid "J" may have even older roots. In Latin, the letters "i" and "j" (and also "u" and "v") were usually treated as two forms of the same letter. On many ancient Roman coins, Jupiter was spelled "IVPPITER" and Augustus was spelled "AVGVSTVS."

[This information from www.pochefamily.org/books/No%20Company%20J.html].

THE 77TH ILLINOIS' CIVIL WAR RECORD

During the Civil War, the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry passed through the rebellious states of Kentucky, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama and participated in the following battles and skirmishes:

Departed Peoria, Illinois	Oct. 4, 1862
Chickasaw Bluffs, Mississippi	Dec. 27, 1862 to Jan. 1, 1863
Arkansas Post, Arkansas	Jan. 11, 1863
Port Gibson, Mississippi	May 1, 1863
Champion Hill, Mississippi	May 16, 1863
Big Black River, Mississippi	May 17, 1863
Vicksburg, Mississippi	May 19 and 22, 1863
Siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi	May 19 to July 4, 1863
Siege of Jackson, Mississippi	July 13 to 17, 1863
Mansfield (Sabine Cross Roads), Louisiana	April 8, 1864
Cane River, Louisiana	April 23, 1864
Fort Gaines, Alabama	August 4 to 8, 1864
Fort Morgan, Alabama	August 8 to 23, 1864
Spanish Fort, Alabama	March 27 to April 9, 1865
Fort Blakely, Alabama	April 9, 1865
Whistler Station, Alabama	April 13, 1865
Returned to Peoria, Illinois	July 29, 1865



SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

For my genealogical research:

Ancestry.com My primary research tool for this project was the search engine of *Ancestry.com*. Typically, I would filter the result by choosing “Family Trees” and visually inspect each member’s entry for that soldier. Fortunately, the *Ancestry* search engine generally lists those pages with the greatest amount of information first, so often by inspecting the first ten trees, I could readily determine which were the best ones.

FamilySearch.com Later on, I discovered this excellent website and database operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Unlike *Ancestry.com*, *FamilySearch.org* endeavors to maintain a “one world tree” and unified database that aims to contain one entry for each person recorded in their genealogical records.

Find a Grave I also used the search engine and pages of *Find a Grave*, an online service that not only located many of the gravesites of my soldiers, but also confirmed a few birth and death dates that were uncertain. I gave special weight to the inscriptions on gravestones, assuming that the deceased and their immediate family members would have inscribed the correct dates and spellings on the gravestones.

NOTE: I have created a “virtual cemetery” on *Find a Grave*, which documents the final resting places of veterans of the 77th Illinois V.I. It can be found at <https://www.findagrave.com/virtual-cemetery/1194142>.

Finally, I am grateful to my uncle **Roland Benjamin**, who helped me understand the field of genealogy, provided additional information about our shared Civil War ancestors, and was kind enough to review my work and make numerous additions, corrections, and suggestions that improved it.

For my historical research:

My starting point for researching the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry and its citizen soldiers was William H. Bentley’s *History of the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry*, which was published in 1883 by the Edward Hine Printers of Peoria, Illinois. Bentley’s 2nd chapter “REVIELLE” and 20th chapter “ALL PRESENT OR ACCOUNTED FOR” were particularly helpful for muster-in and muster-out records. This digital book is available as a PDF for downloading at <https://archive.org/details/historyof77thil>.

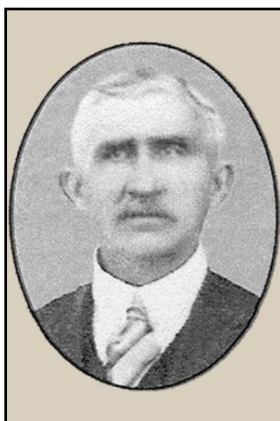
The Illinois Secretary of State office, in concert with the Illinois State Archives, has an online Illinois Civil War Muster and Descriptive Rolls, which allows anyone to search for a specific Illinois soldier name or create a list of names for an entire regiment or a specific company of that regiment. It can be found at:

<https://www.ilsos.gov/isaveterans/civilmustersrch.jsp>

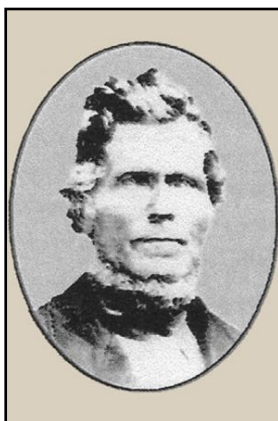
THE AUTHOR'S KNOWN CIVIL WAR ANCESTORS



Samuel Kirkman
Private, Co. K, 77th Illinois
my 2nd great-grandfather



Wilson S. Benjamin
Private, Co. D, 8th Illinois
my 2nd great-grandfather



Daniel F. Slane
Private, Co. K, 77th Illinois
my 3rd great-grandfather



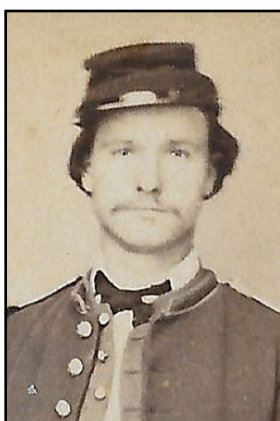
John M. LaFollette
Private, Co. K, 77th Illinois
my 1st cousin, 4x removed



Jacob J. LaFollette
Private, Co. K, 77th Illinois
my 1st cousin, 4x removed



Frederick F. Gilson
Private, Co. K, 77th Illinois
husband of my 9th cousin,
2x removed



Imle E. Coulson
Corporal, Co. K, 77th Illinois
husband of my 6th cousin,
4x removed



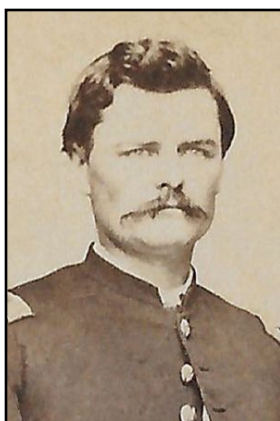
James William Avery
Private (to Corporal),
Co. C, 77th Illinois
my 8th cousin, 2x removed



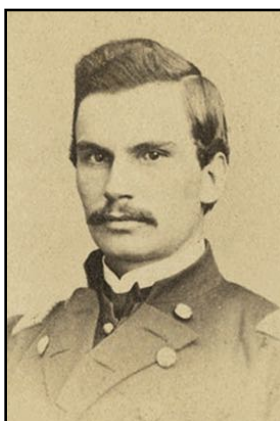
Jacob H. Snyder
Musician, Co. I, 77th Illinois
husband of my 9th cousin,
1x removed



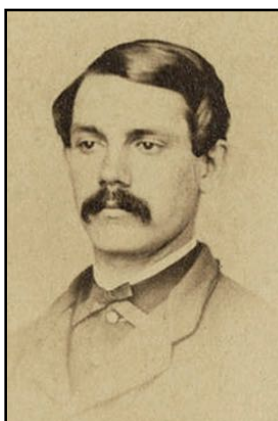
Lemon H. Wiley
Principal Musician, 77th Illinois
husband of my 9th cousin,
4x removed



Jacob W. Wilkin
Captain, Co. C, 77th Illinois
husband of my 11th cousin,
3x removed



David P. Grier
Colonel, 77th Illinois
my 8th cousin, 3x removed



Orange Parret
2nd Lieutenant, Co. B, 77th IL
my 10th cousin, 1x removed

No photographs: **Job A. Benjamin**, Private, Co. C, 76th Ohio, my 2nd great-granduncle
William H. Bentley, Private (to Corporal), Co. I, 77th Illinois, husband of my 10th cousin, 3x removed
William W. King, Private, Co. K, 77th Illinois, husband of my 2nd great-grandaunt

SECTION V



SURNAME WORKSHEETS

Soldier's name Samuel Kirkman

Soldier's Mother's surname Bromley

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname Grandage

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Greenhalgh

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname Doubet

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname Agan, Kingsley

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname Dumars

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname Perry

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname May

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname Meyers

Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname King

Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname Kingsley

Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname Heathcote

Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname Fennell

Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname Graham

<u>Soldier's name</u>	<u>John Pritchard</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Lonsdale</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Halstead</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Wife's surname</u>	<u>Lonsdale</u>
<u>Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Crabtree</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Rider</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>McCarty</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Hardin</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Fulk</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Dutton</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Lonsdale</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Buckley</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Kershaw</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Lonsdale</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #9 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Mullen</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #10 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Cochran</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #11 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #12 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Pilkington</u>

Soldier's name Oswald Green

Soldier's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Morris

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Ashton

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname Harding

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname Moody

Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's name Henry Morris

Soldier's Mother's surname Greenbough

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname Manock

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname Pilling

Soldier's Wife's surname Holt

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Ingham

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname Morris?

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname Cottingham

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname Greenough

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname Basett

Soldier's name Richard Morris

Soldier's Mother's surname Greenbough

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname Manock

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname Pilling

Soldier's Wife's surname Basett

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname Greenough

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname Holt

<u>Soldier's name</u>	<u>Thomas Holt</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Ingham</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Barlow</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Wild</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Cooper</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's surname</u>	<u>Morris</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Wrigley</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Andrews</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Green</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Copper</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Greenough</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Collinge</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Fuller</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #8 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Morris</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Morris</u>
--------------------------------------------	---------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Ramshaw</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Bagg</u>
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Soldier's name Frederick Gilson

Soldier's Mother's surname Helliar

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname Horler

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname Grove

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Keeney

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Whittecar

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname Wallin

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname Moody

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's name George Edwards

Soldier's Mother's surname Scott

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname Bollar

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname Thornton

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname Kisner

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Hughes

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Collins

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname Hess

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname Hancock

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname Harrison

Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname Harrison

Soldier's Child #7 Spouse surname Goessling

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname Schnebly

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname Shimp

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname Wilkinson

Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname 0

<u>Soldier's name</u>	<u>John LaFollete</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Jackson</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Roush</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Loop</u>
<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Kale</u>
<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Pugh</u>
<u>Soldier's Wife's surname</u>	<u>Metcalf</u>
<u>Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Spencer</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Howell</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Fogle</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Phelps</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Sidebottom</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Slane</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Coppersmith</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Cox</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #9 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Gillham</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #10 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #11 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Cox</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #12 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>

Soldier's name Imle Coulson

Soldier's Mother's surname Eno

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Tozier

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Runnells

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname Taylor

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname Downs

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #7 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #8 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #9 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname Clark

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname Clark

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname Davis

Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname Barstow

Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname Frizzell

Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname Sherwood

Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname Smith

<u>Soldier's name</u>	<u>J. William Avery</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Dillingham</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Butterfield</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Runyan</u>
<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Griffith</u>
<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Eldridge</u>
<u>Soldier's Wife's surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Gibson</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Lamb</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Berry</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Fuller</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Mungle</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Dorsey</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Lowry</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Carringer, Lanham</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #9 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Carringer</u>

Soldier's name Lyman Rench

Soldier's Mother's surname Swearingen

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname Bond

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname Young

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Boyd

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Updegraff

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname Nicholas

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname Northcraft

Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname Foote

Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Sibling #9 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's name Louis Rench

Soldier's Mother's surname Malott

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname Nowell

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname Young

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Loren

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname Rogers

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname Brown

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname Mohler

Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname Brasher

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname Schnebly

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname Sphoone

Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname 0

<u>Soldier's name</u>	<u>Jacob Snyder</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Hursh, Allewelt (step)</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Hougendobler</u>
<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Straub</u>
<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Wife's surname</u>	<u>Lee</u>
<u>Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Parmelee</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Heisel</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Ewing</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Rivers (half)</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Fogler (half)</u>
<u>Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Reinoehl (half)</u>

<u>Soldier's name</u>	<u>William Boman</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Baxter</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Slaughter</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Dumbauld</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Hooper</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's surname</u>	<u>Moore</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Denning</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Rodgers, Tracy</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Palmer</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Garrett</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Murphy</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Hodgson</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Gandolfo</u>
------------------------------------------	-----------------

<u>Soldier's Child #8 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Alback</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #9 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Ward</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Massie</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Ballard</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Peterson</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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Soldier's name Edwin Somers

Soldier's Mother's surname Morris

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname Manock

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Ruvenacht

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Engel

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname Williams

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname 0

<u>Soldier's name</u>	<u>Jacob Wilkin</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Burner</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Cullers</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------------

<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Muller</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Swisher</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Michael</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's surname</u>	<u>Constable</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Hinde</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Booth</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Ewing</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Mayo, Hill</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Park</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Coulter</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Green</u>
--------------------------------------------	--------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Fee, Greer</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

Soldier's name John Camp

Soldier's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname ?

<u>Soldier's name</u>	<u>Jacob LaFollette</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Jackson</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Roush</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Loop</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Kale</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Pugh</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's surname</u>	<u>Slane</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Race</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Smith</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Tucker</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>King</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Dalton</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Lorance</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Lines</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #8 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Harpman</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Coppersmith</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Metcalf</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Cox</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #9 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Gillham</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #10 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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Soldier's Sibling #11 Spouse surname Cox

Soldier's Sibling #12 Spouse surname 0

<u>Soldier's name</u>	<u>Daniel Slane</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Poston</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Cheshire</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Robins</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's surname</u>	<u>McDonnel</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Hall</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's surname</u>	<u>LaFollette</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Kale</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Miller</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Doubet</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Speers</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Cheshire</u>
--------------------------------------------	-----------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Race</u>
--------------------------------------------	-------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #9 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Doubet</u>
--------------------------------------------	---------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #10 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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Soldier's name William Bentley

Soldier's Mother's surname Whatmough

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname Merril

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname Hargreaves

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname Shepperd

Soldier's Wife's surname Lucas

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname Hoskins

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname Brush, Pemble

Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname Momyer

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname Myers

Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname Catton

Soldier's Sibling #8 Spouse surname Hayward

<u>Soldier's name</u>	<u>David Grier</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Perkins</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>Ferrier</u>
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<u>Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's surname</u>	<u>McKinney</u>
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<u>Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname</u>	<u>?</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Jackson</u>
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<u>Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Stewart</u>
------------------------------------------	----------------

<u>Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Todd</u>
------------------------------------------	-------------

<u>Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Chase</u>
------------------------------------------	--------------

<u>Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Miller</u>
------------------------------------------	---------------

<u>Soldier's Child #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname</u>	<u>?</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Hibben</u>
--------------------------------------------	---------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Campbell</u>
--------------------------------------------	-----------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname</u>	<u>Clarke</u>
--------------------------------------------	---------------

<u>Soldier's Sibling #7 Spouse surname</u>	<u>0</u>
--------------------------------------------	----------

Soldier's name Lysander Webb

Soldier's Mother's surname Webb

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname Kellogg

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Ballance

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Schnebly

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname 0

Soldier's name Charles Ballance

Soldier's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Schnebly

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Snavely

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname Webb, Bash

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname Bash

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname Robison

Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname Rice

Soldier's Child #5 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Child #6 Spouse surname Greene

Soldier's Child #7 Spouse surname Nevins, Lundquist

Soldier's Child #8 Spouse surname Collins

Soldier's Child #9 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's Child #10 Spouse surname Brackett

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname ?

Soldier's name Orange Parret

Soldier's Mother's surname Dent

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname Berkshire

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname Bradgot

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname Custard

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Wife's surname Maleham

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Fenton

Soldier's Child #1 Spouse surname Wierman

Soldier's Child #2 Spouse surname Firestone

Soldier's Child #3 Spouse surname Rieck

Soldier's Child #4 Spouse surname Coan

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname Gray

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname Gould

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname Mitchell

Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname Whitney

Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname Stoner

Soldier's Sibling #6 Spouse surname Taylor

Soldier's name Lemon Wiley

Soldier's Mother's surname Jackson

Soldier's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Mother's Mother's Mother's surname ?

Soldier's Father's Mother's surname Mustard

Soldier's Father's Mother's Mother's surname Morrison

Soldier's Wife's surname Wilson

Soldier's Wife's Mother's surname Pickering

Soldier's Sibling #1 Spouse surname Dunaway

Soldier's Sibling #2 Spouse surname Hunnell

Soldier's Sibling #3 Spouse surname Grooms

Soldier's Sibling #4 Spouse surname Jolliff

Soldier's Sibling #5 Spouse surname Clendaniel

Related books by the author

Our Union to Restore documents the troop movements and war experiences of the author's six known Civil War ancestors, who fought for the Union Army in two Illinois and one Ohio infantry regiments.

Brothers in Arms investigates the lives of the 18 men whose carte de visite photographs were owned and safeguarded by the author's great-great grandfather, who fought alongside his fellow citizen soldiers from central Illinois in the 77th Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

77th Illinois Photo Album is an ongoing effort to gather digital scans of all existing photographs of soldiers from that Peoria-based regiment, gleaned from online photo archives, museums, historical societies, and collectors.

LEESON'S
Photographic Gallery,
167 Poydras St.,
New Orleans.



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